THURSDAY
July 10, 2025

BENGALURU
CITY EDITION
18 Pages ₹ 6.00

THE HINDU

www.thehindu.com

INDIA'S NATIONAL NEWSPAPER SINCE 1878

https://newsth.live/fb
https://newsth.live/x
https://newsth.live/ig

RNI No. KARENG/1970/49945

Vol. 56 • No. 163

Printed at » Chennai » Coimbatore » Bengaluru » Hyderabad » Madurai » Noida » Visakhapatnam » Thiruvananthapuram » Kochi » Vijayawada » Mangaluru » Tiruchirapalli » Kolkata » Hubballi » Mohali » Malappuram » Mumbai » Lucknow » Cuttack » Patna

SAMSUNG

Galaxy Z Fold7

Galaxy AI

4.2mm
Slimmest Galaxy Z Fold yet

200MP Camera
with ProVisual Engine

Snapdragon 8 Elite
for Galaxy

Pre-order now

Buy 256GB. Get 512GB.
^Free memory upgrade worth ₹ 12000

24 months **no-cost EMI***
Zero down payment

BAJAJ FINSERV | HDFC BANK | IDFC FIRST Bank | TVSCREDIT | Samsung Finance+™

samsung.com

Please dispose of e-waste and plastic waste responsibly. Customers can WhatsApp on 180057267664 for information on e-waste/plastic waste.

Image simulated, actual may vary. Actual UX/UI may vary. Color and features as per availability. Samsung account login is required for certain AI features. Samsung does not make any promises, assurances, or guarantees as to the accuracy, completeness or reliability of the output provided by AI features. Samsung promotes responsible use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) features. *T&C apply. 24 months no cost EMI only applicable on NBFC. Eligibility for EMI at the sole discretion of the financiers including those listed on Samsung Finance+ (Financier T&C applies). ^Pre-order customers of Galaxy Z Fold7 256 GB are eligible to benefits of memory upgrade from 256 GB to 512 GB worth ₹ 12000. Offer valid till 24 July 2025. Offer can be revised or withdrawn without prior notice. All third party logos/brands are trademarks/registered trademarks of the respective brand/company. Samsung disclaims any and all liabilities thereof.

Scan and experience Galaxy AI

Or WhatsApp "Hi" to 9870 494949 to pre-order at Samsung Experience Store

Cheil-26941/25

J BG-BGE

THURSDAY
July 10, 2025

BENGALURU
CITY EDITION
18 Pages ₹ 6.00

THE HINDU

www.thehindu.com

INDIA'S NATIONAL NEWSPAPER SINCE 1878

https://newsth.live/fb
https://newsth.live/x
https://newsth.live/ig

RNI No. KARENG/1970/49945

Vol. 56 • No. 163

Printed at » Chennai » Coimbatore » Bengaluru » Hyderabad » Madurai » Noida » Visakhapatnam » Thiruvananthapuram » Kochi » Vijayawada » Mangaluru » Tiruchirapalli » Kolkata » Hubballi » Mohali » Malappuram » Mumbai » Lucknow » Cuttack » Patna

CBFC SUGGESTION

Malayalam movie renamed after row

SOUTH » PAGE 7

RECURRING ACCIDENTS

Two IAF pilots killed in Jaguar crash in Rajasthan

NEWS » PAGE 10

LABOUR STRIKE

More than 25 crore participated: unions

NEWS » PAGES 7 & 11

DATA POINT

Delhi's refuelling ban: simple but imprecise

Rules alone will not deliver clean air

OPINION » PAGE 9

THE LORD'S BATTLE

Gill's India will look to sustain momentum

SPORT » PAGE 15

Increase in city's built-up area blamed for rising temperature

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The steady rise in Bengaluru's temperature has resulted in 15.41 sq. km area in the city having very high temperature, and only 168.93 sq. km area being under favourable conditions as per the Urban Thermal Field Variance Index, which evaluates the well-being of the environment concerning ecological thermal comfort while considering the Urban heat island effect.

As much as 545.25 sq. km was under unfavourable ecological conditions, according to a new study. The study draws the correlation to these developments with 1,078% increase in urban (built-up) area from 1973 to 2025.

FULL REPORT ON
» PAGE 2

12 killed as key bridge collapses in Vadodara

Trucks, vans, and other vehicles tumble into the Mahisagar river as a slab of the 40-year-old Gambhira bridge gives way near Padra town; a few more vehicles remain submerged, say police

Abhinay Deshpande
AHMEDABAD

At least 12 people were killed and nine injured after a section of the Gambhira bridge near Padra town in Vadodara district of Gujarat collapsed early on Wednesday, sending multiple vehicles crashing into the Mahisagar river.

Videos showed a portion of the bridge between two piers collapsed, dragging down vehicles that were crossing at the time. Eyewitnesses described a chaotic scene as trucks, vans, and other vehicles tumbled into the water as a 15-metre-long slab of the 40-year-old bridge – a key link between central Gujarat and the Saurashtra region – gave way.

Tragic fall: Rescuers at work after a part of the Gambhira bridge in Gujarat collapsed on Wednesday. AP

Superintendent of Police, Vadodara (Rural), Roshan Anand told *The Hindu* that rescue teams pulled out nine survivors, with five receiving treatment at SSG Hospital in Vadodara. "Two or three more vehicles remain submerged, and we fear the toll may rise," he said. Efforts were on to retrieve the trapped vehicles, he added. "None of the survivors is in a critical condition," Mr. Anand said.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 10

No decision yet on updating NPR along with Census

Vijaita Singh
NEW DELHI

The Centre has not yet decided whether to update the National Population Register (NPR) during the upcoming Census 2027, senior Home Ministry officials have told Census directors during a preparatory meeting.

When questions were raised about the NPR during a two-day conference of the Directors of Census Operations held on July 3 and 4, participants were told that no decision had yet been made regarding the database, and that they would be informed about it at an appropriate time, sources told *The Hindu*.

The conference sessions were addressed by Union Home Secretary Govind Mohan and Registrar-General and Census Commissioner of India Mritunjay Kumar Narayan. This was the first preparatory meeting for the Census, the first phase of which begins in April 2026.

A June 27 letter from the RGI to the Chief Secretaries of all States on preparations for the Census also did not mention the NPR.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 10

Detailed list

The NPR is the first step towards the creation of a National Register of Citizens

- The NPR was first created in 2010 and updated in 2015-16
- The NPR has details of household-wise database of 119 crore usual residents of the country
- NPR data can be shared with government agencies and States, unlike the Census data

NEARBY

CM seeks defence industrial corridors, land

BENGALURU
Chief Minister Siddaramaiah called on Defence Minister Rajnath Singh in Delhi and urged him to extend support for establishing two defence industrial corridors and grant defence land for executing infrastructure projects in Bengaluru. » Page 6

Fee for govt. seats in engg. courses increased

BENGALURU
The State government has increased the fee for government quota seats in engineering and architecture courses for the academic year 2025-26. » Page 5

intel

Why Does Pythagoras Theorem Only Work For Right Triangles?

Tackle doubts with simplified explanations on Intel-powered AI PCs

That's the power of Intel Inside®.

intel CORE ULTRA

Padhai Ka Future

Retailer	amazon.in	croma	Flipkart	Reliancedigital	vijay sales www.vijaysales.com
Brand offers listed below*1					
Brand* / Model Name**	HP 15 (39.6cm Display)	Samsung Galaxy Book5 360 (39.62cm Display)	Samsung Galaxy Book5 360 (39.62cm Display)	Lenovo Yoga Slim 7 (35.56cm Display)	ASUS Vivobook 15 (39.62cm Display)
Discount up to*2	₹23 461	₹24 600	₹23 000	₹46 641	₹26 500
Cashback up to*3	₹10 000	₹10 000	₹8 000	₹5 000	₹2 500
Exchange Bonus up to*4	₹5 000	₹8 000	₹2 000	₹4 000	-
Maximum Savings up to*5	₹38 461	₹42 600	₹33 000	₹55 641	₹29 000
EMI*6	Starting at ₹8 832/month	Starting at ₹4 649/month	Starting at ₹8 667/month	Starting at ₹4 014/month	Starting at ₹5 540/month

Exciting offers on educational software subscriptions*7 — Curious Jr @PW | GUVI Skill Up. Level Up | HCL | HK | iPrep | Infinity Learn

Scan to know more

Images are meant for representation purposes only, actual designs may vary.
*Brand here refers to third party sellers and their respective brand names. Intel does not endorse these claims and does not provide guarantees, warranties of any kind, express or implied in relation to the third party sellers and their respective brand names.
**This advertisement contains references to third party devices identified by their model names, which is not a description of such device. The subject matter of the advertisement is Intel's platform, any other information in this advertisement is only ancillary and Intel does not claim any responsibility for the third party devices. The numbers mentioned in the table are in no way representative of the laptop features. These purely represent the laptop model name and/or pricing, as the case may be.
*1Important Note: Table is for illustrative purpose only. The brand offers mentioned above are from the respective laptop brands and sellers of the laptop models mentioned. Intel is not liable for any of these offers, and provides no guarantee or warranty on these. Buyers are advised to reach out to respective laptop brands, retail stores or market places, for more details and research before purchase. Offers may be subject to change or withdrawn without prior notice.
*2Discount applies to select laptop models and is subject to change without prior notice. Offer valid while stocks last.
*3Cashback offer valid on eligible laptop purchase only. Terms and conditions apply. Please reach out to laptop brands, retail stores or market places, for more details.
*4Exchange bonus amount may vary by laptop model. Please reach out to laptop brands, retail stores or market places for more details.
*5Terms and Conditions Apply. Please reach out to laptop brands, retail stores or market places for more details.
*6Finance offer applicable at the sole discretion of Financier. Processing fees and other charges are applicable as per Financier.
*7Terms and Conditions apply. These offers are coming directly from the respective EduTech providers. Intel is not liable for any of these offers and provides no guarantee or warranty on these. Please reach out to respective EduTech providers for more details.
AI features may require software purchase, subscription or enablement by a software or platform provider, or may have specific configuration or compatibility requirements. Details at www.intel.com/PerformanceIndex. Results may vary.
© Intel Corporation. Intel, the Intel logo, and other Intel marks are trademarks of Intel Corporation or its subsidiaries. Other names and brands may be claimed as the property of others.

At the Home of Cricket, who will climb the slope?

With the series locked one-all, the Lord's Test will be a compelling third act of the five-part showdown; for all the apprehensions that a young Indian side under a first-time captain would be overrun by an experienced and settled home team, Gill's outfit has acquitted itself creditably

GETTY IMAGES

R. Kaushik
LONDON

The Players' balcony within the terracotta-coloured pavilion, built some 135 years ago. The image of Kapil Dev, toothy grin and all, receiving the Prudential World Cup Trophy on 25 June 1983. The unforgettable sight of Sourav Ganguly whipping off his shirt and waving it over his head repeatedly on 13 July 2002, a little over six years after his century on Test debut at the same venue, after young turks Yuvraj Singh and Mohammad Kaif orchestrated a stunning assault on England's 325 in the final of the NatWest Trophy tri-series.

The Lord's Cricket Ground, or simply Lord's, has been the stage of many a spectacular Indian display over the last 93 years. India played their first Test here, in 1932, and announced their intention through their speed merchants Amar Singh, Mohammad Nissar and Jahangir Khan, who took 14 of the 18 home wickets to fall even as Col. C.K. Nayudu's men went down by 158 runs. The start might not have been propitious, but India have had great reason to reflect on their trysts with Lord's with fondness.

Everywhere around the perimeter, one is constantly exposed to the 'Home of Cricket' moniker. Lord's is the headquarters of the England and Wales Cricket Board - the International Cricket Council also used to be housed here for 96 years, until 2005 - and prides itself on its strict adherence to tradition, though in keeping with the demands of the modern times, it has allowed itself to be refurbished without compromising on its old-world charm.

It's here that England and India will renew battle in what ought to be a compelling third act of a five-part showdown. The honours are even - India responded to a five-wicket loss in Leeds with a commanding 336-run win in Birmingham - and therefore, there is everything to play for. For all the apprehensions that a young Indian side under a first-time captain would be overrun by an experienced and settled home team, Shubman Gill's outfit has acquitted itself creditably, outbatting the English at various stages and comprehensively outbowling them at Edgbaston even without the rested genius of Jasprit Bumrah.

Around the closeness of the series, there have been two major talking points -- the nature of the surfaces, and the quality of the Dukes balls. Neither of these topics is likely to fade into the background over the next five days.

To no one's surprise, the character of Test pitches in England have drastically changed in the last three years, since the coming together of the management group of Ben Stokes and Brendon

McCullum. When Stokes took over the captaincy from Joe Root, English Test cricket was at its lowest ebb – just one victory in 17 matches, culminating in a series loss in the Caribbean. The aggressive Stokes and the equally positive McCullum made a spectacular shift from the traditional, dumping an ultra-conservative approach for a diametrically opposite standpoint steeped in positivity and supreme self-belief.

Like Eoin Morgan had handpicked players to fashion a title-winning squad in the immediacy of England's first-round elimination from the 2015 World Cup, Stokes and McCullum unearthed personnel that would fit their template instead of altering their blueprint to accommodate the existing personnel. It appealed to everyone remotely associated with English cricket - the fans, hitherto disillusioned, the administrators, who were delighted that the new-found approach was bringing the fans back and sending the coffers soaring, and an excitable media that was surprisingly pliant when it came to overlooking excesses.

Flatter surfaces

One of the inevitable offshoots of the brand of cricket labelled Bazball - McCullum goes by 'Baz' with his pals - was a flattening out of the pitches. Surfaces as they once existed in England would not facilitate plans that revolved around scoring at 4.5 runs an over and using time and scoreboard pressure to harry and hustle opponents. Where England was once a test of character and technique of batters, it soon became a graveyard for bowlers. Even a virtuoso like James Anderson, Test cricket's leading non-spinner wicket-taker, was driven to term one of such tracks - in Birmingham in 2023 - as his 'kryptonite' for the singular lack of even token assistance. For all the talk of 20 wickets being essential to winning a Test match, England's success has stemmed from their batting muscle, which does make for exciting action.

At times, England have looked silly and rigidly uncompromising, happy to court defeat in pursuit of glory when prudence dictated holding their horses. There is a distinct philosophy that frowns upon playing for draws; somehow, even in Test cricket, England feel it's all right to lose when almost everyone else will set ego or whatever one wants to call it aside and knuckle down to grind out a stalemate. Again, that tack hasn't attracted too much criticism.

Batters nowadays aren't challenged half as much as in the past in England, when a combination of swinging balls and generous lateral movement kept Nos. 3, 4 and 5 on the edge of their seats even before the openers took guard. The flattening out of pitches has taken the dread – if that is the right word – of the new ball out of the equation, which is no disrespect to the likes of Yashasvi Jaiswal and K.L. Rahul, Ben Duckett and Ollie Pope.

England haven't just needed good batting tracks to espouse their style, they have needed those surfaces to remain good for batting for the duration of the game. Because they fancy hunting down any target in the fourth innings - and who is to find fault, given that their two highest successful chases (378 and 371) have come in the last three years - they tend to field first when commonsense would dictate batting. The ends have justified the means more often than not, including in Leeds when 371 was reined in at a canter, but when there is even a nominal spanner in the works, England's management group hasn't been averse to speaking its mind.

Making pitches to suit the home team is not a novelty. In some quarters, it is referred to, not complimentarily, as 'pitch-doctoring'. England's faith in sustained batting beauties is also a form of pitch-doctoring, even if it doesn't attract the same censure as a surface in India which might help the spinners from ball one and remain that way for the duration of the game, however long that might be, even if the turn is consistent and the bounce true. But that's a story for another day.

The Birmingham surface, which deteriorated slightly but not alarmingly, didn't go down well with England. There has been a clamour for a 'more lively' track at Lord's, whatever that might be interpreted as. Lively as in more pace? More seam movement? Greater carry? Guess one has to wait and watch.

As much as the pitches, the balls being used have come under serious flak. Almost everyone who has spoken to the media over the last three weeks has lamented the Dukes going soft after 30 or 35 overs, and losing shape even before that stage. Whether it is just because of the way the ball is being made, or whether it is because of the flat, hard surfaces on which the ball takes a fair amount of pounding when it is bashed in, is open to question.

"In this series, from what I've seen, the ball is getting deshaped too much," Rishabh Pant, India's vice-captain whose ball-bashing could have something to do with the ball getting out of shape, agreed on Wednesday. "That has never happened earlier. It's definitely irritating for the players because every ball plays differently. When it becomes softer, sometimes it's not doing too much. But as soon as the ball is changed, it starts to do enough. As a batsman, you've got a challenge adjusting to it. But at the same time, I feel it's not good for cricket anyway (the balls losing shape)."

As unacceptable as the ball going out of shape is the lack of swing up front, which further takes the bowlers out of the equation. India's quicks have exploited the new balls better; in Birmingham, they picked up wickets with the first new ball in both innings and sparked a collapse of five for 20 in the first innings with the second new cherry, so maybe it's a feather in the cap of the Indian batters that they haven't lost wickets in a cluster to the new ball. But while there is still a modicum of threat at the start of an innings, that threat level drops alarmingly when the ball ages and gets to the 35-over mark or so.

"We're not the only (having issues with the ball)," Stokes observed. "Whenever we have touring teams come here, there is an issue around the balls going soft, going completely out of shape. I don't even think that the rings that we use (used to see if the balls have gone out of shape) are the Dukes rings. It's something that isn't ideal, but you've got to deal with it."

Different countries use different brands of cricket balls. The Aussie-origin Kookaburra is the most popular, used in Test cricket in several parts of the world and for now enjoying exclusive monopoly in all white-ball internationals. In India, the preferred red-ball weapon of destruction is the SG Test while here in England, it has been the Dukes for a long time. Perhaps the authorities will hold the ball manufacturers to greater accountability, given how widespread the criticism of the balls being used for this series has been.

The one unique feature of Lord's is the 2.5-metre slope that runs the breadth of the ground. For batters and bowlers alike playing here for the first time, it can be a huge battle, fighting the slope. Balls that might be left alone on line anywhere can easily have a 'W' written on them, while bowlers often struggle to bowl both with and against the slope. It might appear only a tiny component, but what's it they say about appearances being deceptive?

THE GIST

- Around the closeness of the series, there have been two major talking points — the nature of the surfaces, and the quality of the Dukes balls
- One of the inevitable offshoots of the brand of cricket labelled Bazball – was a flattening out of the pitches
- At times, England have looked silly and rigidly uncompromising, happy to court defeat in pursuit of glory when prudence dictated holding their horses

SAMSUNG

Galaxy Z Fold7 | Z Flip7

Galaxy AI

Pre-order now at ₹ 4584/month*

Buy 256GB. Get 512GB.
^Free memory upgrade worth ₹ 12000

24 months no-cost EMI#
Zero down payment

BAJAJ FINSERV | HDFC BANK | IDFC FIRST Bank | TVSCREDIT | Samsung Finance+™

samsung.com

Please dispose of e-waste and plastic waste responsibly. Customers can WhatsApp on 180057267664 for information on e-waste/plastic waste.

Image simulated, actual may vary. Actual UX/UI may vary. Color and features as per availability. Products sold separately. Flex mode is supported at angles between 75° and 115°. Samsung account login is required for certain AI features. Samsung does not make any promises, assurances, or guarantees as to the accuracy, completeness or reliability of the output provided by AI features. Samsung promotes responsible use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) features. *T&C apply. ₹ 4584/month EMI computed on 24 months no cost EMI on the price of ₹ 109999 (inclusive of taxes) for 1 unit of Galaxy Z Flip7 12|256GB. EMI at the sole discretion of issuer/NBFCs/Financiers including those listed on Samsung Finance+ (Financier T&C applies) and may vary model wise. #24 months no cost EMI only applicable on NBFC. Eligibility for EMI at the sole discretion of the financiers including those listed on Samsung Finance+ (Financier T&C applies). ^Pre-order customers of Galaxy Z Fold7 256 GB and Galaxy Z Flip7 256 GB are eligible to benefits of memory upgrade from 256 GB to 512 GB worth ₹ 12000. Offer valid till 24 July 2025. Offer can be revised or withdrawn without prior notice. All third party logos/brands are trademarks/registered trademarks of the respective brand/company. Samsung disclaims any and all liabilities thereof.

Scan and experience Galaxy AI

Or WhatsApp "Hi" to 9870 494949 to pre-order at Samsung Experience Store

Cheil-26941/25

J BG-BGE

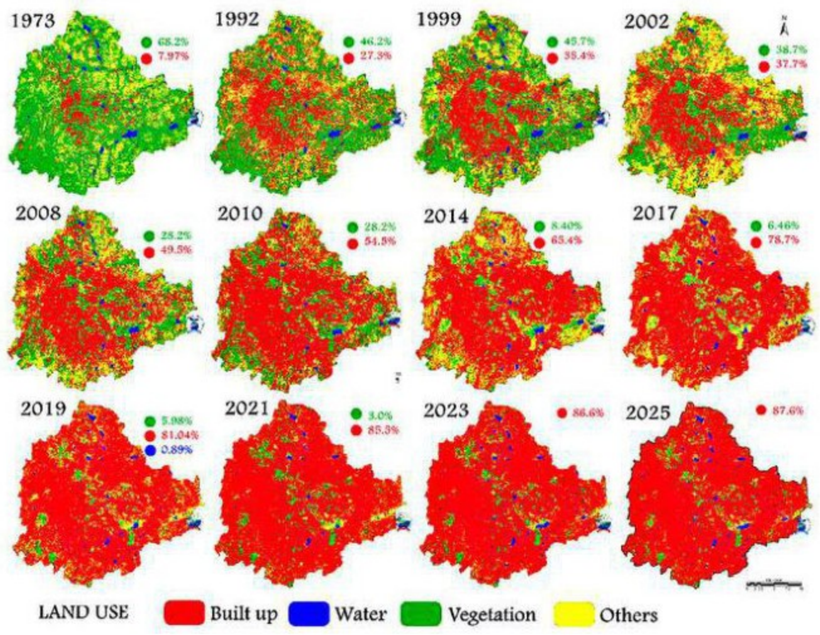
City too hot? Dramatic increase in built-up area to blame: Study

'May temperatures went from 16° C to 18° C in the 1970s, 19° C in the 1990s, 21° C in 2000, 28° C in 2010, and 34° C in 2025'

K.C. Deepika
BENGALURU

As Bengaluru's once temperate climate turning increasingly warmer continues to be in the news, a newly published study reveals that 15.41 sq. km area in the city has very high temperature, even as land uses assessed using temporal remote sensing data from 1973 to 2025 showed a 1,078% increase in urban (built-up) area during the last five decades – from 7.97% in 1973 to 87.64% in 2025.

Only 168.93 sq. km area was under favourable conditions as per the Urban Thermal Field Variance Index (UTFVI), which evaluates the well-being of the environment concerning ecological thermal comfort while considering the Urban Heat Island (UHI) effect, whereas 545.25 sq. km was under unfavourable ecological conditions. UHI archipelago, representing the combined effect of multiple localised heat islands, forming a broader area of elevated temperatures, was observed especially in the eastern and northern parts of the city, the study added.



The study says UHI archipelago, representing the combined effect of multiple localised heat islands, forming a broader area of elevated temperatures, was observed especially in the eastern and northern parts of Bengaluru. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Ambient air details

"Temporal ambient air temperature details complied from the India Meteorological Department monitoring stations in Bengaluru reveal that ambient temperature has shown an increasing trend with the alteration in landscape structure with an increase in paved surfaces (buildings, roads, etc.) and decline of natural porous surfaces (vegetation, lakes, etc.)," the study said. May temperatures went from 16° C to 18° C in the 1970s, 19° C in the 1990s, 21° C in 2000, 28° C in 2010, and 34° C in 2025, it added.

These findings coincide with the comparison of daily maximum temperatures from 2015 to 2024 against the World Meteorological Organization's standard 1991-2020 climatological baseline, which showed that over the last 10 years, traditionally cooler cities such as Bengaluru and Mumbai have been experiencing more days with above-average temperatures than Delhi.

The study, 'Urban heat island linkages with the landscape morphology,' was conducted by T.V. Ramachandra, Rajesh Singh Rana, S. Vinay and Bharath H. Aithal, and published in the journal *Nature* on July 8. The micro level analyses was initiated to recommend appropriate building regulation.

According to the researchers, Bengaluru witnessed spatial expansion in the mid-2000s with the formation of the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike by including adjacent rural landscapes, which led to the conversion of agricultural land to paved areas.

"The city landscape witnessed a 1,078% increase in built-up with a decline of 88% vegetation cover and 79% water bodies, leading to the transition of the landscape from porous to paved surfaces, affecting the hydrology, ecology, and socio-economic aspects. The urban trajectory in Bengaluru city exhibits distinct phases; from 1973 to 1992, steady annual growth of 1% driven primarily by the establishment of nationalised public sector industries, globalisation and subsequent relaxation in markets during the 90s witnessed by the emergence of the information technology (IT) sector," the study said.

It added that the post-2002 era witnessed annual growth rates surging to 2.01% due to the proliferation of private industries and Special Economic Zones (SEZs). These developments generated employment opportunities and pushed a rapid conversion of peri-urban landscapes for residential and commercial development. The 2012-2021 period was characterised by intense urban growth driven by the increasing IT sector and the associated influx of population and annual urbanisation reached 3%, it said

Recommendations

Prof. Ramachandra one of the authors of the study, said policy recommendations to mitigate UHIs in cities should include increasing and protecting green spaces, integrating green infrastructure into urban development plans, a mini forest of native species in each ward to moderate local temperature, maintaining 30% open spaces with green cover at plot levels, connecting fragmented tree patches for promotion of ecosystem health and sustainability, rejuvenating the 216 lakes to retain rainwater and facilitate groundwater recharge, among others.

Nationwide strike: Production in industries across sectors hit; city life remains unaffected

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Members of various trade unions during a protest in Bengaluru on Wednesday. PTI

The nationwide strike called by the central trade unions on Wednesday affected production in industries across sectors, as workers sat on protest at various centres across the city.

However, daily life was almost unaffected by the strike, as transport services operated as usual in Bengaluru, despite some transport unions supporting the strike call.

According to the Joint Committee of Trade Unions (JCTU), about 8,000 workers arrived at Freedom Park, where a protest meeting was organised. The workers from engineering, pharmaceuticals, automobiles, electronics, and aerospace industries, among others, participated.

"Production came to a complete halt in several industries in the city as workers held a gate meetings before leaving to the protest site," a source in JCTU said.

A memorandum detailing the workers' demand was also submitted to the government.

The JCTU urged immediate implementation of the draft minimum wages already notified by vacating the stay ordered by the court. Urging scrapping of the four industrial codes, the JCTU said that maximum working hours daily should be capped at eight, and proposed an amendment to Section 24 of the Factories Act and Shops and Establishment Act that involves safety measures for working class, should be withdrawn.

Four arrested for gang-rape and robbery

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Parappana Agrahara police on Wednesday arrested four men for allegedly gang-raping a 34-year-old woman, who was at her friend's house, and later robbing both the victim and her friend, on Monday.

The accused have been identified as Raghu alias Appu, 23, Kenche Gowda, 26, Madesha, 27, and Shashikumar, 24.

According to the police, the victim had gone to her friend Nagesh's house on his invitation. Nagesh had also called Raghu to his house. However, Raghu arrived with three others, and the four accused reportedly barged into the house, threatened the woman and Nagesh with a police case, and assaulted them before allegedly gang-raping the woman.

They later allegedly forced the victim to transfer money to an online gaming application. While the woman transferred ₹12,000, Nagesh transferred ₹8,000. The accused then hailed a goods vehicle and allegedly looted household items, along with two mobile phones, before fleeing the scene.

Tree 'stop'

Blocking access: The branches of a tree that was cut down have remained uncleared near the TV Tower bus stop on Jayamahal Main Road in Bengaluru on Wednesday. SUDHAKARA JAIN

Expert committee to submit report on Hassan heart attack cases today

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The expert committee headed by K.S. Ravindranath, Director of Sri Jayadeva Institute of Cardiovascular Sciences and Research, that was also entrusted with the task of studying the reported rise in sudden heart attack deaths in Hassan district is all set to submit its report to the Health Minister on Thursday.

Amid mounting public anxiety over the rising trend of sudden cardiovascular events (heart attack, sudden cardiac death) post-COVID-19 pandemic, the State government had in February this year set up an expert committee headed by Dr. Ravindranath to evaluate the temporal and potential causal links with prior SARS-CoV-2 infection and/or COVID-19 vaccination. The committee did not find any association between premature cardiovascular disease and a prior history of COVID-19 infection or COVID vaccination. With regard to the reported deaths in Hassan district, the same committee, comprising senior cardiologists, public health experts, epidemiologists and officials from Hassan district, was given 10 days to investigate and submit a report.

Dr. Ravindranath told *The Hindu* that the committee had completed its field visits, data collection and verbal autopsies of the families over the past nine days. "We are looking at outlining the possible causes behind the reported rise in the deaths - including lifestyle factors, post-COVID health issues, access to timely medical care, and environmental or occupational risks. So far, we have not found any conclusive results that point towards a single cause," he said.

"We have collected and studied the treatment details, including available post-mortem reports of the deceased. Of the 22 deceased during May-June in the district, only eight have undergone post-mortem. Hence, we are depending on verbal autopsies," he added.

KHB employee among 3 booked for selling govt. site

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Lokayukta police on Wednesday booked an Assistant Executive Engineer (AEE) with Karnataka Housing Board (KHB) and two private individuals, for illegally selling a KHB site for ₹10 crore in Yelahanka New Town, causing a loss to the exchequer.

The accused, Syed Asghar, AEE with KHB (Yelahanka New Town) was arrested along with Govindaiah and Harini Satish from T. Dasarahalli. They were charged under Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 and also under Section 409 (criminal breach of trust by a public servant), 420 (cheating), and 468 (forgery for the purpose of cheating) of IPC.

Wrongful loss

According to the Lokayukta police, Asghar sold KHB site 271 'A' Sector site measuring 50.5 x 80 ft to Govindaiah and Harini, causing wrongful loss to the government.

The suspects have been issued notices to appear for an inquiry, a senior officer said. The role of a fourth suspect is yet to be established.

On Wednesday, the Lokayukta police raided KHB's Yelahanka New Town office and the residences of Asghar and Govindaiah. Officials said that the searches yielded documents and their photocopies related to the site.

NIA gets six-day custody of three accused in prison radicalisation case

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A special court in Bengaluru has granted six-day custody of the three people arrested on Tuesday in connection with the 2023 prison radicalisation case to the National Investigation Agency (NIA).

On Wednesday, the NIA special court in Bengaluru remanded Anees Fathima, mother of Junaid Ahmed, accused number 2 in the case who is currently on the run; Nagaraj, psychiatrist, Bengaluru Central Prison; and Chand Pasha, assistant sub-inspector, City Armed Reserve, North, in the custody of the central agency.

The arrests followed extensive raids at five locations in Bengaluru and Kolar districts by the NIA on Tuesday.

The NIA suspects that Fathima acted as a contact person between her son Junaid and Tadiyandaveed Naseer, alias T. Naseer, a lifetime convict in terror cases, lodged in the central prison. Naseer is the accused number one in this case.

The NIA claimed that Nagaraj smuggled mobile phones inside the prison for inmates, including Naseer.

According to the NIA, Pasha used to pass on information about the escort of Naseer to various courts in Bengaluru in exchange for money, but it has not disclosed the recipients of the message.

The case came to light in 2023 after the Bengaluru Central Crime Branch (CCB) police arrested five people in northern Bengaluru.

The five were said to be associates of Junaid, who had multiple criminal cases against him, including that of hatching a terror conspiracy to carry out "explosions" in Bengaluru. The CCB had seized four grenades and eventually arrested one more person who had handed over the grenades near T. Begur to the accused.

According to police sources, 12 people, including Junaid and the five accused, were arrested in 2017 by the R.T. Nagar police in connection with the murder of a businessman.

According to the sources, when Junaid and his men were in judicial custody at the central prison, they came in contact with Naseer, a Lashkar-e-Taiba-linked convict, who is accused of having radicalised them.

Junaid was again accused in a red sanders smuggling case in 2021; ever since, he has been absconding, according to the police.

Vocal, sarangi concerts tomorrow

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Sapthak Bangalore will host a music programme titled 'Swara Sarangi' on Friday at the Indian Institute of World Culture, Basavanagudi.

The event is scheduled to begin at 6 p.m. The evening will start with vocal performances by Nisha Kulkarni and Milind Srivastava, visiting from the U.S. They will be accompanied by Kaushik Bhat on the tabla, and Ajay Hegde on the harmonium.

The second half of the programme will feature a sarangi recital by Ustad Murad Ali Khan from Delhi, with Ravindra Yavagal on the tabla. The event is open to the public.

'40 of 60 bus stops in Whitefield need immediate intervention'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

An audit of 60 bus stops around Mahadevapura and Whitefield areas, carried out by five students with Whitefield Rising, revealed that 40 were in poor condition and needed immediate fixing.

The audit covered 60 bus stops across a 23.03 km stretch, including Kundalahalli, Pattandur Agrahara, Varthur Kodi, Hoodi among others. The bus shelters were evaluated on 12 factors across six standards: safety, accessibility, structure, cleanliness, lighting, and seating.

None of the bus stops was covered under CCTV surveillance, and there were no holdings to suggest that there was any CCTV camera. This is despite the city having at least 3.5 lakh cameras and an additional 8,500 AI-powered cameras installed under the safe city project.

Attention please

Issues	No. of bus shelters
Flooring in hazardous condition	13
Seating in poor condition	06
Poorly lit shelters	14
Bus stop name missing	31
Health hazard with garbage piled up	14
Rats/ pests infestation in bus stop area	10

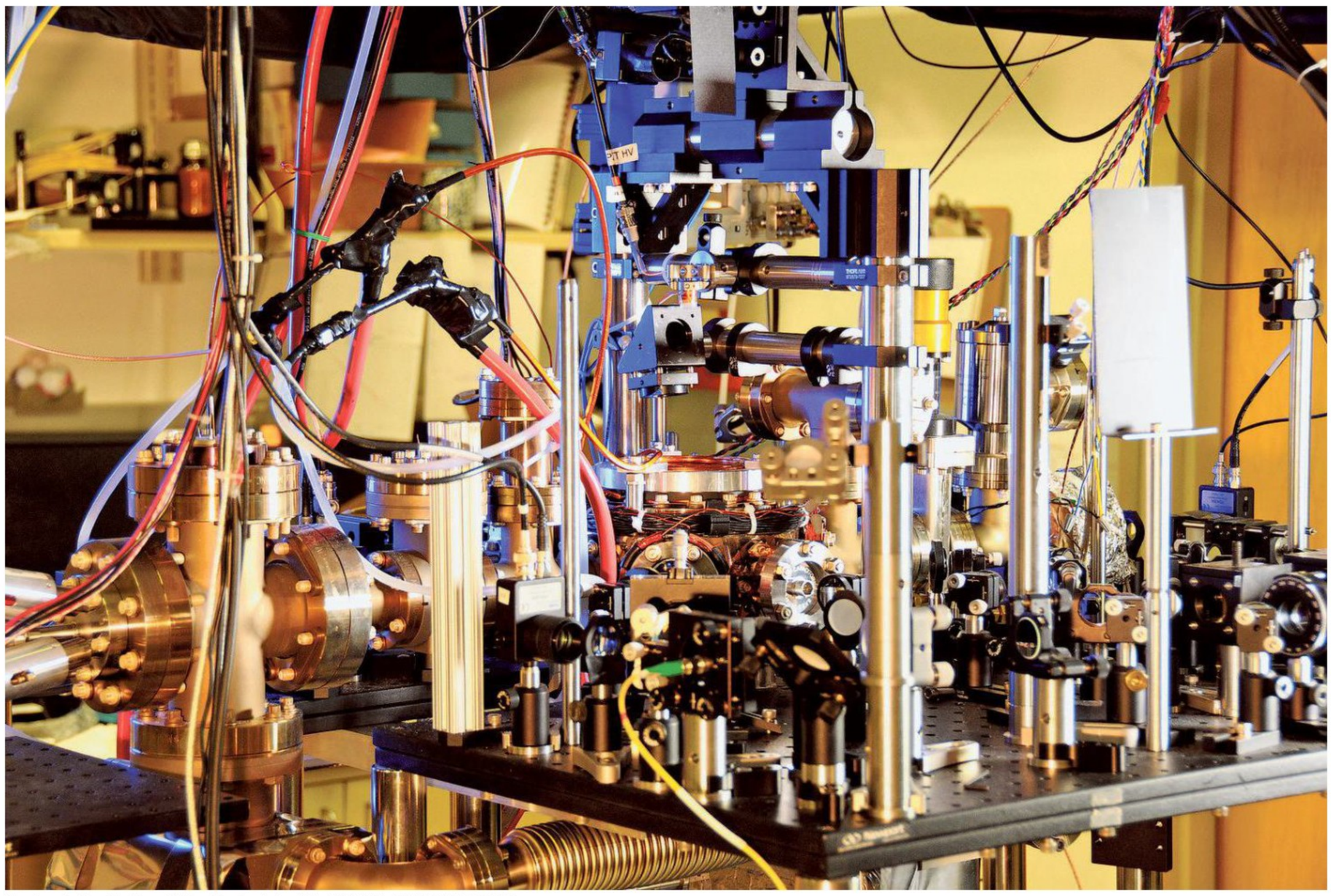
Among other major concerns, the audit revealed that 84.2% of bus stops were poorly lit, and the source of light for the majority of the shelters was billboards and other advertisement panels. Interestingly, none of the bus shelters had "bus stop" sign, and many didn't even have the name of the bus stand written on the shelter.

Immediate attention

Among the 40 bus stops that needed immediate attention, 33% had poor flooring, 15% had seating issues, 35% of the bus shelters were poorly lit, 78% of the shelters didn't have bus stop names, and 35% had issues that are potential health hazards.

Anjali Saini, a member of Whitefield Rising, said that they took three weeks to conclude the audit, which included 10 days of legwork and 10 days of data analysis. "We have compiled the report and presented it to the BMTC officials. We are trying to present the data to BBMP officials for their part of the issue, but they have not responded," Ms. Saini added.

A BBMP official told *The Hindu* that the BBMP Traffic Engineering Cell (TEC) is undergoing internal changes; hence, they have not been able to review the report. Once done with the ongoing revamp of TEC, the report will be taken up.



An ultra-stable ytterbium lattice atomic clock at the US NIST in 2013. PUBLIC DOMAIN

Intercontinental clock comparison sets stage to redefine the second

Because they can enumerate one second up to 18 decimal places, scientists expect optical clocks will become the world's new time standard around 2030. Until then, however, optical clocks will have to pass rigorous tests attesting to their ability to work in step from different parts of the world

Vasudevan Mukunth

Researchers from around the world have completed the world's largest, most demanding head-to-head comparison of clocks in history to build confidence for the upcoming redefinition of the second.

The duration of a single second is currently defined by caesium (Cs) atomic clocks. Lasers "count" the radiation emitted by Cs atoms in these devices to measure one second, give or take a few billionths. As the applications of atomic clocks have expanded – including GPS navigation, climate science, and radio astronomy – expectations of their performance have also increased, necessitating the more advanced optical clocks.

Scientists around the world have been studying and testing these next-generation devices. Because they can enumerate one second up to around 18 decimal places, scientists expect optical clocks will replace Cs atomic clocks as the world's new time standard around 2030. Until then, however, optical clocks will have to pass rigorous tests attesting to their ability to work in step from different parts of the world.

The new effort presents the largest, most sophisticated such test to date. It involved 10 optical atomic clocks on three continents and 65 researchers.

SI unit of time

To measure the passage of time, strike up a conversation with the person next to you. If it's riveting, time will fly. But if it advances in painstaking steps, time will slow to a crawl.

For better or for worse, this isn't good enough for scientists. To understand how much time one second denotes, they use natural phenomena. In the early 20th century, the definition of a second was one-86,400th of a mean solar day. The first quartz crystal clocks that appeared in the late 1940s could measure time more accurately than the earth's rotation. So scientists switched to the earth's revolution around the sun. In 1956, one second became equal to one-31,556,925.9747th of the time the earth took to go once around the sun from January 0, 1900.

Since then, scientists have been building better clocks that, at each step, also incentivised them to refine the time standard. The current standard is based on atomic clocks. These clocks don't directly measure time. Instead, they are complicated setups scientists put together to generate radiation of a fixed frequency. (Frequency is nothing but the inverse of time.)

In 1967, the SI unit of time was defined thus: "the duration of 9,192,631,770 periods of the radiation corresponding to the transition between the two hyperfine levels of the ground state of the caesium-133 atom". This verbose definition really communicates a simple meaning.

Pass the last one

An atom's internal energy comes in fixed steps, like rungs on a ladder. It can jump up a rung by absorbing the right amount of energy and jump back down by giving that energy up again.

In a Cs atomic clock, the energy that makes the jump is supplied by a finely tuned microwave signal. The atoms react most strongly when the microwave frequency is 9,192,631,770 Hz. Electronics watch how many atoms make the jump. If that number slips below a peak, the equipment nudges the microwave setting until the jump rate is back to the maximum. When that happens, the microwave signal itself is guaranteed to be exactly 9,192,631,770 Hz, i.e. composed of 9,192,631,770 waves per second.

Chips called frequency dividers count these microwave waves and pass on only every 9,192,631,770-th one. This wave comes along every one second – and is the SI definition of the second.

Around the world, many countries have set up their own Cs atomic clocks to define their respective national time standard. In India, the National Physical Laboratory in New Delhi maintains five Cs atomic clocks. The clocks' output is disseminated to various applications around India via the INSAT satellites, telecommunication signals, and fibre links. Scientists, however, are already at work refining the next big thing: the optical atomic clock.

Good for 15 billion years

The wall clock hanging in your house is likely powered by two AA batteries and uses a quartz crystal oscillator. After a few months, the clock will start losing a few seconds. The Cs atomic clock that defines the US national time standard loses only one second every 300 million years, however.

This is stupendous, yet in some cases it isn't good enough. As their application in defining the time standard suggests, atomic clocks are used in many technologies that we encounter every day. The American GPS network, Russia's GLONASS, Europe's Galileo, and India's NavIC constellation use atomic clocks onboard satellites to accurately measure distance and location data for both civilian and military use. Astronomers use it in radio-astronomy to piece together signals received on different parts of a large telescope. This is how they captured history's first photograph of a black hole in 2019. Climate scientists use atomic clocks for ultra-precise measurements of the earth's gravity that reveal where ice and water have been lost.

As these applications have expanded,

In India, the National Physical Laboratory maintains five Cs atomic clocks. Their output is disseminated around India via satellites, telecommunication signals, and fibre links

the expectations of atomic clocks have, too. The definitive emission in Cs atomic clocks, of 9,192,631,770 Hz, is in the microwave range of the electromagnetic spectrum. In optical atomic clocks, it's in the optical (or visual) range. The radiation emitted when a strontium atom jumps between two particular energy levels is 429,228,066,418,009 Hz. When a ytterbium-ion jumps between two levels, the radiation has frequency 642,121,496,772,645 Hz. Because this radiation contains 10,000-times more waves per second, a device that can count them out can also measure one second more precisely.

The frequency of the radiation emitted is also proportional to the clock's stability. In 2014, one optical atomic clock that used strontium atoms would reportedly drift by less than one second in 15 billion years. This is why optical atomic clocks are set to become the next global time standard.

But ahead of the milestone, scientists must prove that clocks in different countries agree with one another to the 18th decimal place.

Across three continents

Enter: the new test. It involved 10 optical clocks based on five atoms: strontium-87 (Sr), ytterbium-171 (Yb), charged ytterbium-171 ions in two states (Yb^+ E2 and Yb^+ E3), charged strontium-88 (Sr^+), and indium-115 ions (In^+). The clocks were located at six national metrology institutes in Finland, France, Germany, Italy, the U.K., and Japan.

The two clocks participating from Germany were in the same building, so the scientists linked their outputs through short optical fibres. The clocks across France, Germany, and Italy were linked with telecommunication fibres that already run through these countries. To prevent any noise or distortion from corrupting the data, scientists installed bespoke repeaters and amplifiers. Finally, to link the clocks across the English Channel, the Baltic Sea, and all the way to Japan, the teams used an advanced GPS technique called integer precise point positioning (IPPP).

Because optical clocks occasionally take breaks for maintenance, the teams set up simpler backup clocks that stepped in temporarily to keep time using GPS data. When the optical atomic clocks were back in operation, the backups would handover and step back.

In this way, all the clocks ran for 45 days between February 20 and April 6, 2022. Every time two different clocks were running and connected, the researchers divided their laser frequencies to make a ratio. In total the teams reported 38 independent optical-frequency ratios, far more than any earlier project. Four of these ratios – Yb^+(E3) to Yb, In^+ to Yb, Sr^+ to Sr, and Sr^+ to Yb – had never before been measured directly. The tightest single result was the ratio between the In^+ and Yb^+(E3) clocks in Germany, measured locally with an uncertainty of just 4.4×10^{-18}.

The teams found that the fibre and satellite links told the same story for most ratios. For example, the Sr clocks in Germany and France differed by a factor of less than 2×10^{-16} via both technologies, showing that long fibres and IPPP could both support ultra-precise timing in good conditions. Similarly, same-atom ratios – Sr to Sr, Yb to Yb, and Yb^+ to Yb^+ – confirmed that many clocks were healthy. The Germany and the U.K. clocks were compared by GPS across the North Sea and matched within 3×10^{-16} even after accounting for downtime.

Combine results responsibly

The researchers were also able to reveal gaps they will have to fix before 2030. Every GPS-based ratio that involved the Italian Yb clock was off by about 4×10^{-16} compared with fibre measurements, pointing to a previously unnoticed signal distribution glitch at the Italian facility. The strontium clocks in France and Germany showed small but real offsets, up to 2×10^{-16}, when the teams checked them against other clocks and each other. These shifts were large enough to matter for a future definition of the second and will need further study.

The authors of the paper describing the test, published in *Optica* on June 12, noted that recognising such hiccups is exactly why large, redundant campaigns are valuable.

Because many ratios shared the same clocks, fibres, backups or GPS receivers, the teams noted that their errors were correlated. To address this, they developed a 38×38 matrix capturing 242 non-zero correlation coefficients. These coefficients captured the degree to which any two variables were related, e.g. it was 0.94 when two ratios shared a common clock on the same fibre. The teams said publishing these correlations will allow future analysts combine results responsibly instead of double-counting information.

In the final analysis, by showing that 10 heterogenous clocks across three continents could agree with each other to within a factor 10^{-16} to 10^{-18}, and by identifying the rare cases when they didn't, the test has cleared many obstacles *en route* to redefining the SI second with optical atomic clock standards.

(mukunth.v@thehindu.co.in)

A view of TMC1 captured by the European Space Agency's Herschel Observatory. ESA (CC BY-SA)

Organic molecules survive in space thanks to energy release 'valve'

Vasudevan Mukunth

Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) are ring-shaped molecules of carbon and hydrogen. Astronomers think they make up a fifth of all carbon in interstellar space. There is a hypothesis that meteors brought PAHs from space to earth and created the first building blocks of life, attaching important value to their ability to survive in space.

In Taurus Molecular Cloud 1 (TMC1), small closed-shell PAHs – molecules whose electrons are in pairs – appear in greater quantities than theory predicts even though they are constantly exposed to starlight that should have destroyed them.

Now, researchers from Australia, Sweden, and the UK have cracked this puzzle by studying the indenyl cation, $C_9H_7^+$, a charged fragment of a PAH called indene (C_9H_8). The team found that the ions have a mechanism to cool rapidly, letting them accumulate in TMC1 over time.

The findings, published recently in *Physical Review Letters*, mean astronomers can refine their models of how PAHs grow from fragments to eventually seed planets with prebiotic carbon.

TMC1 is a collection of gas, dust, and plasma about 430 lightyears away.

When PAHs absorb high-energy radiation, they can have more internal

Researchers studying the indenyl cation, $C_9H_7^+$, a fragment of a PAH called indene (C_9H_8), found that the ions have a mechanism to cool rapidly, letting them accumulate in TMC1 over time

energy than their weakest chemical bond can handle. If the molecule doesn't lose this energy, it will disintegrate.

Previous research on open-shell PAH cations has shown that recurrent fluorescence – light emitted as the molecule's electrons jump repeatedly between ground and excited states – can allow the molecule to shed energy. But C9H7+ is a closed-shell PAH with a different electronic structure, so scientists weren't sure whether recurrent fluorescence could protect it.

The researchers injected C9H7+ ions with a lot of vibrational energy into a pair of ion storage rings at Stockholm University. When such a hot ion broke apart, the neutral fragments flew out of the rings and hit a detector. By counting those neutrals over time, the team recorded how fast the ions were breaking up. This way, they found that the ions' characteristic cooling rate was noticeably higher than that reported for several PAH cations.

Then the team put together a model that juggled three competing ways in which the ion could lose energy: dissociation, the probability that a bond snapped; infrared emission, the rate at which the molecule could lose energy by shaking or twisting its bonds; and recurrent fluorescence. When the team ran simulations, it found that including recurrent fluorescence produced data closely matching the rings data.

"The net effect is that many of the PAHs – in particular the small ones, think less than 50 carbon atoms – can efficiently cool rather than decompose," study coauthor and University of East Anglia associate professor James Bull said. "These small ones are important as there has been a surge in their discovery in space over the last few years through radioastronomy observations."

For feedback and suggestions
for 'Science', please write to **science@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Daily page'

Solar plants now allowed in open residential spaces

KERC renames SRTPV plants as Distributed Solar PV plants, which can be installed in car ports or cycle parking spaces on residential premises

Jahnavi T. R.
BENGALURU

Do you want to install a solar power generation project in your building, but do not have space on your rooftop? You can now install solar power projects wherever there is space on your property as long as it can be done at a height of 8 feet (ground clearance).

In a big push to decentralised solar projects, the Karnataka Electricity Regulatory Commission (KERC), in an order issued on Wednesday, extended the net metering/gross metering arrangements provided to Solar Rooftop Photovoltaic (SRTPV) systems to ground mounted solar projects with elevated structures, facade-integrated solar panels on the walls within the premises.

Tapping the power: According to the KERC, consumers can install solar power projects wherever there is space on their property, as long as it can be done at a height of 8 ft. FILE PHOTO

The commission has also renamed SRTPV plants as Distributed Solar PV (DSPV) plants, which can be installed in places such as car ports and cycle parking spaces on the premises. The solar panels themselves can also be used as roof/top of a structure without any base below it.

Building bylaws

"Not every consumer will have space on the rooftop to set up solar panels. Now we have given them a provision to set it up anywhere according to the building bylaws. It will be treated the same way as rooftop solar projects, and what (power) they generate will be set off against what they are consuming," P. Ravikumar, chairman, KERC, told *The Hindu*.

Considering the growing demand for sustainable and clean energy, which has led to a significant focus on solar projects, the commission issued a discussion paper in March 2025 to seek the stakeholders' insights and recommendations for enhancing solar energy adoption.

A public hearing on the matter was held on June 6. Taking into account the suggestions and recommendations, along with the fact that the State has an installed capacity of just 754.89 megawatts (MW) under SRTPV and 5666.22 MW under ground-mounted plants, the commission has brought in some changes to the existing regulations.

Net Metering

The commission has also allowed Virtual Net Metering (VNM) and Group Net Metering (GNM) for the DSPV projects heeding to the demand of the stakeholders.

"Under VNM, a group of two or more consumers from the same consumer category can set up solar plants to offset the electricity consumption of more than one electricity service connection(s) of participating consumers located within the area of supply of an electricity supply company (Escom). Domestic consumers, group housing societies, institutions run or managed by charitable Institutions/organisations, government buildings, including schools, buildings belonging to local authorities shall only be eligible to install solar plants under virtual net metering arrangements," Mr. Ravikumar explained.

He further explained that under GNM, a consumer can set up a DSPV project in any one of their installations, and the energy that is exported to the grid can be used to set off the electricity consumption of more than one connection under the same name. This is open to all categories of consumers. The minimum size of the plant under both VNM and GNM should be 5 kilowatts (KW).

The KERC has also eliminated the execution of the Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) for Domestic (LT) consumers up to 150 kW. "In cases of shifting solar panels due to a change in the location of the consumer within the jurisdiction of the Escom, the consumer is allowed to continue the same PPA for its remaining term."

Tariff for DSPV plants

Domestic consumers (1 kW to 10 kW) without capital subsidy - ₹3.86 per unit

Consumers under PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijali Yojana

- 1 kW to 2 kW - ₹2.30 per unit
- 2 kW to 3 kW - ₹2.48 per unit
- Above 3 kW - ₹2.93 per unit

Vishwanatha appointed V-C of BASE

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Governor and Chancellor Thaawarchand Gehlot has appointed Prof. Vishwanatha, a professor of Economics in Mangalore University, as Vice-Chancellor of Bengaluru Dr. B.R. Ambedkar School of Economics (BASE).

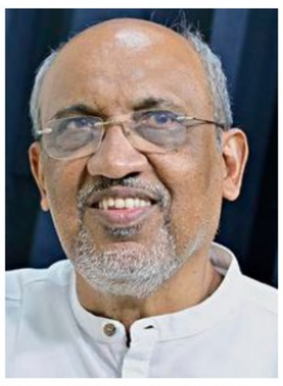
The post of the V-C has been vacant since June 21, 2024.

According to the officials from the Higher Education Department, the delay in appointment was because the panel appointed to submit the recommendation for the post of Vice-Chancellor had insisted that the department should go for an advertisement inviting applications at the national level.

'Evolve a policy to determine extent of land required for different industries'

B.S. Satish Kumar
BENGALURU

Prakash Kammaradi suggests that prestigious institutions like IIM-B and ISEC should be involved in formulating a policy to ensure industrialisation does not hurt farmers' interests



Agri-economist T.N. Prakash Kammaradi during an interaction with *The Hindu*, in Bengaluru on Wednesday. K. MURALI KUMAR

Prakash Kammaradi urges industry leaders to play a pro-active role in resolving land acquisition issues

Ahead of Chief Minister Siddaramaiah's meeting with Devanahalli farmers scheduled on July 15 to discuss their demand for shelving land acquisition, noted agriculture economist T.N. Prakash Kammaradi has called for taking industry leaders into confidence by involving them in consultations. He also stressed the need for evolving a policy on "comprehensive land acquisition and transparent land use plan for industries."

In an interaction with *The Hindu*, Dr. Kammaradi, who has also served as chairman of the Karnataka Agricultural Prices Commission, observed that industry had not been involved in any of the consultations over demand for shelving the land acquisition for the proposed Defence and Aerospace Park.

He urged the industry leaders to play a pro-active role in resolving this issue.

"Though the entire episode of farmers' struggle for more than 1,190 days in Devanahalli is over acquisition of their farm lands for industrial purpose, the industries' representatives are not in the picture in consultations and debate," he said. Taking industries into confidence would go a long way in finding an amicable solution, he maintained.

No clear norms

Also, Dr. Kammaradi observed that there was no clarity on the quantum of land required for different kinds of industries.

"There are no clear cut norms before the government to decide the quantum of land required for various kinds of industries based on their activities and nature of functioning. Hence there is a feeling in some sections that disproportionate tracts of lands have been sanctioned to some industries in earlier cases, though they do not require that amount of space. In this context, there is a need to assess the land requirement for different industries in a scientific manner by involving all the stake holders, experts and academicians," he argued.

Policy focus

A policy should be evolved to suggest the ideal locations for different industries by taking into consideration their requirements, employment creation potential and need for uniform and decentralised growth in different areas of the State, he said.

Dr. Kammaradi pointed out that most policies so far have stressed the need to keep out only irrigated lands (command areas of irrigation project) out of acquisition.

"In the present context, there is a need to insulate even the borewell (groundwater) irrigated lands that are fertile and enabling cultivation of multiple crops in a year from land acquisition to ensure food and nutritional security," he argued. The main intention should be to ensure that farmers' interests are not hurt and industrialisation too is not hit.

He suggested that prestigious institutions like Indian Institute of Management-Bengaluru, Institute for Social and Economic Change and Institute for Indian Institute of Plantation Management among other ICAR institutes should be involved in the process of evolving such a policy.

Dr. Kammaradi maintains that evolving such a policy and involving industries and experts in the process would provide clarity regarding land acquisition not just with respect to Devanahalli case, but elsewhere in the State.

Postcards released

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Clarence High School in Bengaluru released a set of four commemorative picture postcards in collaboration with the Department of Posts, Government of India, on Saturday to mark the school's 110th anniversary.

The postcards feature archival photographs representing key figures in the school's history, including its founders, former principals, and a former kindergarten coordinator.

WALK-IN INTERVIEW
FOR CADET AME TRAINING PROGRAM

HINDUSTAN AVIATION ACADEMY • BANGALORE •

A leading Airline, in collaboration with Hindustan Aviation Academy (HAA), an approved DGCA CAR 147 Basic MTO, invites aspiring candidates to attend Walk-in Interview for the **CADET AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE ENGINEER (AME) TRAINING PROGRAM.**

Date: Saturday, 12th July 2025 Time: 9:00 am to 5:00 pm

Location: Hindustan Aviation Academy, Ashwathnagar, Chinnappanahalli, Marathahalli, Bengaluru - 560037

Eligibility Criteria: Minimum 12th Std. pass with Physics, Chemistry, and Mathematics. Minimum 50% marks in each subject and 60% aggregate.

Program Highlights:
- Selection is jointly by HAA & the Airline.
- Selected candidates will undergo comprehensive Cadet AME training at HAA.
- On successful completion, direct placement with the Airline.
- Hands-on training aligned with industry standards and aviation regulatory requirements.

For more details, contact: **9740037853 7619362889**

Website: www.hindustanacademy.edu.in

Interested candidates are requested to email: **admissions@hindustanacademy.edu.in** providing contact details and mentioning **CADET AME PROGRAMME** as the subject.

BEML बी ई एम एल BEML LIMITED
(CIN: L35202KA1964GOI001530)
(A Govt. of India Mini Ratna Company under Ministry of Defence)
BANGALORE COMPLEX, POST BOX: 7501,
NEW THIPPASANDRA POST, BANGALORE-560075

NOTICE INVITING TENDER
e tender through BEML SRM Portal

BEML LIMITED, BANGALORE COMPLEX invites Public Tender-E mode (TWO Bid System)

Civil works tender ref: 6300039698

Work Description : Establishing alternate source of water supply at factory- by drilling borewells, construction of RCC sump, horizontal drilling of GI pipe lines & connecting to main sump at Bangalore Complex, BEML Ltd, Bangalore

Approx. estimated value : Rs. 3,50,00,000 /- inclusive of GST

EMD amount : Rs. 7,00,000/-

Period of contract: 06 Months

Last date & time for submission of bids : 23.07.2025 at 14.00 Hrs

Further details of tender can be obtained from following website: **https://www.bemlindia.in/tenders/active-tenders/Bangalore complex SRM Portal: https://bemlindia.in/eprocurement index.php**

Bidders are advised to visit above websites frequently for any corrigendum, extension, etc.

The management has the right to accept or reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reasons thereon.

Sd/- Asst. General Manager

ICICI Bank

Registered Office: ICICI Bank Tower, Near Chakli Circle, Old Padra Road, Vadodara – 390007, Gujarat
Corporate Office: ICICI Bank Towers, Bandra Kurla Complex, Bandra East, Mumbai – 400051, Maharashtra

Branch Relocation Notice
On Behalf of ICICI Bank Ltd., Kolar Branch

Dear Customers,

This is to intimate you that with effect from September 08, 2025, we are relocating to a more convenient location. The address of the new location is as mentioned below:

New Location: ICICI Bank Ltd., No. 529, New No. 166/171 & 167/172, Hussaini Makan, Near Gandhi Chowk, Ward No. 11, Kolar Town, Kolar Taluk, Karnataka - 563101.

There would be no change in your Account Number or the security items issued to you.

The following guidelines are applicable for customers holding lockers with our Kolar Branch.

In the process of relocating our branch, we will also be relocating the safe deposit lockers to the address, as specified above. The shifting of the locker units will begin on September 05, 2025 and they will be installed at the new location on September 08, 2025.

In case you wish to continue to operate your locker at the new location, we request you to empty your locker and take charge of its contents. Please do so before September 05, 2025. You may replace them at the new location, anytime, during banking hours after September 08, 2025, at your convenience.

In case you are unable to empty your locker, we shall have to move the locker units, along with its content. The locker units will be moved under proper supervision and every precaution will be taken to handle them carefully.

Assuring you of the best services, at all times.

Sincerely,
Branch Manager, Kolar Branch

HUBLI ELECTRICITY SUPPLY COMPANY LIMITED
(Wholly owned Govt. of Karnataka undertaking)
Navanagar, P.B.Road, Hubballi–25 Ph No- 91 94483 70226 Website:www.hescom.karnataka.gov.in
Corporate Identity Number (CIN): U31401KA2002SGC030437

No : HESCOM/DF/CA/DCA/AO(RA)/25-26/ Cys- 2995 **Dtd: 03-07-2025**

NOTIFICATION

Sub: Regarding Consumer Grievance Redressal Forum (CGRF).

In exercise of powers conferred under Section 181 R/W Section 42(5), (6) & (7) of Electricity Act 2003 (Act No. 36 of 2003) and all powers enabling in this behalf, the Karnataka Electricity Regulatory Commission had issued KERC (Consumer Grievance Redressal Forum and Ombudsman (Second Amendment) Regulations 2013.

As per Clause No. 3.1 of the said Regulations, every Distribution Licensee shall establish in every Revenue District of its jurisdiction a Consumer Grievance Redressal Forum (CGRF). To make it convenient for consumers of Dharwad, UttaraKannada, Haveri, Belagavi, Vijayapur, Bagalkot and Gadag Districts of HESCOM jurisdiction, CGRF consisting of chairperson and members have already been created. The details of existing Chairperson and Members are as below:

Sl. No.	Name of Revenue District	Chairperson Nominated by HESCOM	Member Nominated by HESCOM	Member Nominated by Commission	Forum's Head Quarters
1	Dharwad	Sri. K.V Pagi. Superintending Engineer (EI), O&M Circle, HESCOM, Hubballi Cell: 9448370227. Email ID: seehbl.hescom@gmail.com	Sri. Nagaraj L Pujar A/c Deputy Controller of Accounts, O & M Circle, HESCOM, Hubballi Cell: 9448488758. Email ID: dcahbl.hescom@gmail.com	Smt. Savitri B Anami, Advocate, Flat No. A2, KLE Guest House, Siddeshwara Nagara, Unakal Cross, Hubballi-580031 Mob No. 9902470932	O /o, Superintending Engineer (EI) O&M Circle, HESCOM, Shivagangaa Layout, Keshwapur, Hubballi- 580023
2	Uttara Kannada	Sri. Narayan Kallimani Superintending Engineer (EI), O&M Circle, HESCOM, Hubballi Cell: 9448370227. Email ID - seesrs.hescom@gmail.com	Sri. Purushottam D Mallya Executive Engineer, O&M Division, HESCOM, Dandeli. Cell: 9480883701 Email ID – seesrs.hescom@gmail.com	Sri Gururaj G. Gunaga, Advocate, #55 At: Radha Govind, Carstreet, Po: Hegde, Ta: Kumta-581343 Mob No: 9886939877	O /o Superintending Engineer (Elecl.), O&M Circle, HESCOM, Court Road, KPTCL Premises, Sirsi-581 401 (Dist: Uttara Kannada)
3	Haveri	Sri. Narayan Kallimani A/c Superintending Engineer (EI), O&M Circle, HESCOM, Haveri. Cell: 9448132532. Email ID - seehvr.hescom@gmail.com	Sri. Prabhakar M S Executive Engineer, O&M Division, HESCOM, Ranebennur. Cell: 9448094840. Email ID: seehvr.hescom@gmail.com	Sri. Anant Fakkirappa Chigarer, "Avva Nilaya", Shivaji Nagar, 3rd Cross, Haveri-581110 Mob No. 8884531538.	O/o, Superintending Engineer [EI] O & M Circle, HESCOM, Reg No. 85B, Near B.E.O /Haveri Urban Development Authority Office, Hanchinal Layout, P. B. Road, Haveri - 581110.
4	Belagavi	Sri. Praveenkumar. K Chikade, Superintending Engineer (EI), O&M Circle, HESCOM, Belagavi. Cell:9448370240. Email ID - seebgm.hescom@gmail.com	Sri. Rajendra S Swamy, Deputy Controller of Accounts, O & M Circle, HESCOM HESCOM, Belagavi. Cell: 9449818216. Email ID – dcabgm.hescom@gmail.com	Sri. Devaraj Tammanna Bastawade, CCB 4438, Nana Patil Chowk, Chavat Galli, Belagavi -590001	O /o Superintending Engineer (EI) O & M Circle, HESCOM, Neharu Nagar, Belagavi-590010
5	Bagalkot	Sri C.B.Yankanchi Superintending Engineer (EI), O&M Circle, HESCOM, Bagalkot Cell: 9448370248. Email ID - seebgkt.hescom@gmail.com	Sri Kaleem Ahamed, Executive Engineer, O & M Division, HESCOM, Bagalkot. Cell: 9448370258.	Sri. A B. Siddanagouda, Flat No : 34, Sector No: 63, Saraswathi Layout, Navanagara, Bagalakote-587103.	O/o Superintending Engineer (EI) O&M Circle, HESCOM, Sector No -6, Road No-6 Near Patrika Bhavan, Navanagar, Bagalkot-587 103
6	Vijayapura	Sri Siddappa Binjageri Superintending Engineer (EI), O & M Circle, HESCOM, Vijayapura Cell: 9448370248. Email ID - seebjp.hescom@gmail.com	Sri. Mahantesh M Chenngond Executive Engineer, O & M Division, HESCOM, Vijayapura Cell: 9448370249. Email ID – eevjp.hescom@gmail.com	Sri. Prakash G Toshinwal, Krishna Kaveri, K. C. Nagar, Solapur Road, Vijayapura – 586103.	O /o Superintending Engineer (EI) O & M Circle, HESCOM, Beside BDA Office, Basavana Bagewadi Road, Vijayapura-586 109.
7	Gadag	Smt. Najmunnisa K Superintending Engineer (EI), O & M Circle, HESCOM, Gadag Cell: 9449877103 Email ID - seegadag.hescom@gmail.com	Sri. Rajesh Kallyanshetti Executive Engineer (EI) O&M Division, HESCOM, Gadag. Cell: 9448370236. Email ID – eegdg.hescom@gmail.com	Smt. Kalpana M Manvi, Advocate, C/o M. M. Hiremath, Near Rachoteshwar Temple, Vakkalageri Oni, Gadag	O /o Superintending Engineer (EI) O&M Circle, HESCOM, Gadag -582 103.

In the event of a complaint not being redressed satisfactorily by the concerned field officer,the Complainant may submit his grievance in Form 'A' (available in CGRF Offices) within THREE (3) months from the date on which his grievance should have been redressed.

Grievances falling within the purview of any of the following provisions of the Act are excluded from the jurisdiction of the Forum.

(1) Unauthorised use of electricity as provided under section 126 of the Act.
(2) Offences and penalties as provided under section 135 to 139 of the Act.
(3) Accident in the distribution, supply or use of electricity as provided under section 161 of the Act.

Any Complainant aggrieved by the non-redressal of his grievances by the Forum may himself or through his representative make a representation to the Ombudsman within Thirty (30) days from the date of receipt of the order of the Forum. The address of the 'Electricity Ombudsman' is as noted below:

Electricity Ombudsman, Karnataka Electricity Regulatory Commission, No. 16 C-1, Miller Tank Bed Area, (Behind Jain Hospital) Vasanthnagar, Bengaluru-560052.

Sd/- Controller, Corporate Office, HESCOM, Hubballi

DIPR/DWD/398/DESHPANDEPUBLICITY/2025-26

Text&Context

THE HINDU

NEWS IN NUMBERS

Number of elephants that died in Assam during 2000-2023

1,209 Conflicts between humans and elephants in Assam have claimed over 1,400 lives from 2000 to 2023, while more than 1,200 pachyderms died in the State during the same period, a Wildlife Institute of India (WII) report has said. PTI

Power sector workers who participated in the general strike

27 In lakh. As a protest against privatisation and anti-labour policies, these workers across India have observed a one day strike on July 9. In Uttar Pradesh, nearly one lakh power staff, contract workers and engineers staged a protest against the privatisation of two DISCOMS. PTI

Number of Naga tribes protesting for reservation reforms

5 Agitators belonging to five major tribes — Ao, Angami, Lotha, Rengma and Sumi — came together and staged a protest outside the Nagaland Civil Secretariat. They demanded either the scrapping of the current job reservation policy or to reallocate the unfilled reserved positions to these five major tribes. PTI

Countries which are allowed visa-free entry to China

74 Foreign tourists are trickling back to China after the country loosened its visa policy to unprecedented levels. Citizens from 74 countries can now enter China for up to 30 days without a visa. The government has been steadily expanding visa-free entry in a bid to boost tourism. PTI

Cases of illegal transfer of tribal land which are to be probed

1,628 More than 1,600 cases of the illegal transfer of tribal lands to non-tribal people have been identified for investigation in Maharashtra and a report will be submitted, Minister Chandrashekhar Bawankule said. PTI

COMPILED BY THE HINDU DATA TEAM

Follow us facebook.com/thehindu twitter.com/the_hindu instagram.com/the_hindu

How can cat bonds plan for a natural disaster?

How do catastrophe bonds operate? Who issues and sponsors them? Why should a financial investor add catastrophe risk to their portfolio? Can cat bonds offer financial relief during extreme weather events? Could India be a lead sponsor for a South Asian cat bond?

EXPLAINER

Safi Ahsan Rizvi

The story so far:
While life insurance is a ubiquitous term in India, disaster risk insurance is not. A low penetration of disaster risk insurance for individual property and livelihoods leaves much of the population exposed to irretrievable damage and loss. Most peoples' assets and means of income remain largely uninsured. Globally, after the hurricanes of the late-1990s in the U.S., when even re-insurers suffered losses, catastrophe risk was farmed out to financial markets through catastrophe bonds (cat bonds).

What is a cat bond?
Cat bonds are a unique hybrid insurance-cum-debt financial product that transforms insurance cover into a tradable security. These bonds transfer hazard risk from the at-risk state to not just the limited stock of global re-insurers, but to deep-pocketed global financial markets through securitisation, opening up a much larger quantum of funds for post-disaster relief and reconstruction. Cat bonds are effective in transferring pre-defined risk to bond investors, ensuring quicker payouts and a much-reduced counter-party risk.

Players that create cat bonds are sovereign nations, which sponsor the bond and pay the premium, with the principal being the sum insured. The sponsor requires an intermediary to issue the bond to reduce counter-party risk. Intermediaries can include the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank or a reinsurance company. If a disaster does occur, the investor runs the risk of losing a part of the principal – a key reason for higher coupon rates of such bonds, compared to regular debt instruments. There is much variation in coupon rates for a cat bond depending on the risks – earthquakes garner lower premiums, as low as 1-2%, compared to hurricanes or cyclones.

GETTY IMAGES

Are cat bonds profitable?
Nobel Prize-winner Harry Markowitz had famously stated that risk diversification is "truly the only free lunch in finance". Risk-seeking investors find the disaster risk curve most attractive for diversification, since climate or geological hazards are historically not related to financial market movements, being mutually exclusive and independent of the financial risk curve. Probabilistic and deterministic financial risk curves move differently from cat-risk curves, in effect de-risking the entire portfolio of an investor. Leading the pack of cat bond investors are pension funds, with a minority share being occupied by hedge funds and family offices, seeking to de-risk their market-centric risk profiles for sovereign-sponsored cat bonds.

Observers assess that since the onset of cat bonds, there have been $180 billion worth new issuances of cat bonds globally with about $50 billion currently outstanding.

Does India need a cat bond?
In these times of climate change, disaster risk can become unprofitable for insurers and re-insurers, as is increasingly evident in the U.S. with the rising intensity of hurricanes and forest fires. This causes premiums to rise and demand to fall, leading to risk ratcheting back to the harried victim of disasters. This is where governments can step-in, sponsoring instruments like cat bonds. The unpredictability and increase in frequency of extreme weather events like cyclones, floods, forest fires and devastating earthquakes in South Asia have increased India's exposure to disaster-risk. India needs to ring-fence its public finances for post-disaster reconstruction. Given the credit standing of the Indian sovereign and the scale of India's hazard risk profile, it could be cost-effective to sponsor such an instrument, through an intermediary like the World Bank, utilising its established bond curves. Apart from assessing the existing risk curve, insurance companies typically build clauses requiring disaster mitigation into contracts with countries, in the absence of which coupon rates rise. On that count, the Indian government is far ahead, having already demonstrated pro-active risk reduction by allocating mitigation and capacity building funds worth $1.8 billion per annum since FY21-22.

Given India's size and financial stability, India could be lead-sponsor for a South Asian cat bond, given that most such regional risks remain unhedged. In addition, the regional hazard matrix reveals an interesting variety of hazards, each with their own risk curve and a different flavour of history, vulnerability, and exposure. Imagine a regional cat bond for high-impact hazards like an earthquake in Bhutan, Nepal and India; or for a supra-cyclone or tsunami in India, Bangladesh, Maldives, Myanmar and Sri Lanka. A South Asian cat bond would spread risk, reduce premium costs and over time, make the region financially stronger to face disasters.

What are the disadvantages?
A defectively designed cat bond could lead to no payout despite a significant disaster. For example, an earthquake cat bond designed for a magnitude threshold of 6.6M for a certain grid may fail if a 6.5M event occurs and causes extensive damage. In addition, despite a contract if a disaster doesn't occur, it could lead to questions on the desirability of such expense. Hence, comparison of premium to be paid discovered through transparent government procedure, with historical annual costs of post-disaster reconstruction could be the best way forward.

Safi Ahsan Rizvi is an IPS officer and adviser to the NDMA.

THE GIST

- Cat bonds are a unique hybrid insurance-cum-debt financial product that transforms insurance cover into a tradable security.
- In these times of climate change, disaster risk can become unprofitable for insurers and re-insurers, as is increasingly evident in the U.S. with hurricanes and forest fires. This causes premiums to rise and demand to fall, leading to risk ratcheting back to the harried victim of disasters. This is where governments can step-in, sponsoring instruments like cat bonds.
- A defectively designed cat bond could lead to no payout despite a significant disaster.

How did Himachal achieve a high rank on the NAS?

How was Himachal Pradesh able to reach the top five States of the National Achievement Survey?

Tikender Singh Panwar

The story so far:
When the National Achievement Survey (NAS) 2025 results were released on July 2, few expected Himachal Pradesh – which ranked at a modest 21st place in 2021 – to leap into the top five. While Punjab and Kerala retained their leading positions, it was Himachal's 16-rank jump that garnered headlines.

What is the NAS?
The NAS is a nationwide assessment conducted every three years by the Ministry of Education, measuring the learning outcomes of students in government and government-aided schools in Classes 3, 5, 8, and 10. It tests core subjects such as language, mathematics, and science, providing States with data to inform policy.

While it serves as an important diagnostic tool, the NAS has its limitations. It measures what is easily testable– not necessarily what is most meaningful. The broader aims of education such as critical thinking, emotional growth, civic awareness, and equity, are not captured. So, while Himachal's success in NAS is laudable, it should not become the sole benchmark for educational excellence.

Why is Himachal's rise significant?
Himachal's rise on the list is still significant because it signals a reversal of decline. For years, Himachal's public education system – once a model for all hill States – has struggled. Despite the foundational work done under Y.S. Parmar, the State's first Chief Minister, who spearheaded a massive expansion of schools in the post-Independence period, where serving society meant going back to the villages and teaching the young ones, the post-liberalisation era saw the erosion of public schooling.

Contractual hiring of teachers, inadequate recruitment, and compromised academic standards led to an exodus of students to private schools. Even in remote villages, private institutions mushroomed as public confidence in government schools waned.

What changed in recent years?
Since taking office, the Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu-led government has pursued a mix of rational restructuring and renewed commitment to public education. Faced with demographic shifts – most notably, the declining fertility rate highlighted in the NFHS-5 – the administration acted to consolidate resources. More than a 1,000 under-enrolled schools were merged, allowing for the better deployment of teachers and infrastructure. The school education system was unified under a single directorate from pre-primary to Class 12, enhancing focus and accountability.

School-level decision-making was encouraged, boosting students' sense of ownership and identity. Teachers and meritorious students were given opportunities for exposure visits, both national and international, to learn from innovative practices. A cluster-based model of school management was adopted to encourage peer learning, share resources, and community participation.

Does the NAS reflect these efforts?
Not entirely. The NAS gives us an important signal – that Himachal is back on track. But it tells us little about the socio-emotional well-being of students, the quality of teaching-learning relationships, or community engagement. The danger lies in mistaking performance in standardised tests for education itself. Himachal's achievement lies in rekindling faith in the idea of public education.

What lies ahead?
As Himachal rides this wave of reform, it must now deepen its commitment by regularising teacher appointments, expanding holistic assessments, and ensuring that rural and marginalised students are not left behind.

Tikender Singh Panwar is former deputy mayor of Shimla, and member of the Kerala Urban Commission.

THE GIST

- The NAS is a nationwide assessment conducted every three years by the Ministry of Education, measuring the learning outcomes of students in government and government-aided schools in Classes 3, 5, 8, and 10.
- Himachal's rise on the list is significant because it signals a reversal of decline.
- Since taking office, the Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu-led government has pursued a mix of rational restructuring and renewed commitment to public education.

Stampede: HC adjourns hearing on RCSPL's plea until July 17

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The High Court of Karnataka on Wednesday adjourned the hearing on the petition filed by Royal Challengers Sports Pvt. Ltd., (RCSPL) till July 17.

The plea has questioned certain adverse remarks made against RCSPL by the Central Administrative Tribunal (CAT) while setting aside the State government's June 5 order, suspending IPS officer Vikash Kumar for alleged dereliction of duty, in connection with the stampede outside the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium in Bengaluru. A Division Bench comprising Justice S.G. Pandit and Justice T.M. Nadaf adjourned the hearing on the request made by the State Advocate General, who said that the petition could be heard along with an appeal filed by the government challenging CAT's order of setting aside the suspension.

A direction from the court has been sought to either set aside the adverse remarks or to clarify that remarks are not binding on RCSPL.

The CAT had observed that it was RCB's invitation that attracted more than three lakh people, resulting in stampede, and the police officers had made all arrangements even in a short period of time.

The petition said the CAT exceeded its jurisdiction in making the remarks, while adjudication the legality of the government's order of suspending the police officers, it has been contended in RCSPL's petition.

The remarks, which were factually wrong, made by the CAT violate the principles of natural justice as the RCSPL was not a party to the litigation between Mr. Vikash Kumar and the State government, it has been pointed out in the petition.

NLSIU, Ahmadi Foundation to host lecture on Saturday

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The National Law School of India University (NLSIU), Bengaluru, in collaboration with the Ahmadi Foundation, will host the inaugural edition of the Justice Ahmadi Distinguished Lecture Series on July 12.

Renowned historian and biographer Ramachandra Guha will deliver the keynote lecture titled "What would Dr. Ambedkar make of India today?"

The event will be held at Bangalore International Centre auditorium, Domlur II Stage, from 11 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
MINOR IRRIGATION & GROUND WATER DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
M.I & G.W.D.D. DIVISION, VIJAYAPUR

No.EE/MID/VJP/AE-1,2,4/SCP-TSP/TND/2025-26/940 **Date: 08.07.2025**

SHORT TENDER NOTIFICATION

The Executive Engineer, Minor Irrigation and Ground Water Development Department, Division Vijaypur invites work tenders from Eligible Contractor through "E-Procurement" on item rate Tender for following works as per KTPP Act-2000 and latest amendments.
4702- SCP Works:- Total 21 Works/Package Works, Estimated Cost **Rs.118.80 Lakhs**, **Tender Period for the above works are Three(3) Months including monsoon.**
4702- TSP Works:- Total 16 Works/Package Works, Estimated Cost **Rs.206.07 Lakhs**, **Tender Period for the above works are Three(3) Months to Six(6) Months including monsoon.**
Tender documents may be downloaded from Government of Karnataka Public Procurement website https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/#/portal/portal-home under login for Contractors from **10.07.2025.** Tenders may be submitted on electronically in Kpp portal up to **17-30 hrs.** on **17.07.2025.** Interested contractors information regarding works may be obtained from this office or Kppp helpdesk (Ph.No.080-25501216 & 080-25501227) upto **17-30 hrs.** on **16.07.2025.** Tenders shall be quoted without adding GST and other details can be seen in the tender documents.

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
MI & GWDD Division, Vijayapur
ವಾಸಾಸಂಇ/ವಿಜಯಪುರ/171/ಕೆಎಸ್‌ಎಂಸಿಎ/2025–26

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client, **Smt. TULASI N. MURTHY,** W/o. Late H. G. Narayana murthy, aged about 70 years, residing at No. 18; Sri. Narayana Anugraha, 1st Cross, New Bank Colony, Near soudhamini Choultry, Konanakunte, Doddakallasandra, Bengaluru-560062, Aadhaar No. 7850 6379 5485, on 09/07/2025, has lost original registered partition deed dt: 06/10/1941, which is registered as Document No. 1750/41-42, of Book No. 1, Volume No. 661, registered in the office of the Sub Registrar, Kunigal, while getting the photo copies of the original documents in a Xerox shop in Konanakunte and after due diligent search she couldn't found the same, hence she has lodged a police complaint with Bengaluru City police on 09/07/2025, vide Lost report No. 1693396/2025. If anyone finds the aforementioned original registered partition deed dt: 06/10/1941. It is hereby called on the general public to hand over the same to the below mentioned address or to Jayanagar police. Take note that the mis users of the document will be prosecuted.

N.S. SHIVASHANKAR, Advocate
48/1, 2nd Floor, 1st Cross, Opp: Canara Bank, Vallabha Nagar, Uttarahalli Main Road, Uttarahalli, Bangalore-61.
Ph No. 9343094442, 080-41628629

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY
Tender Notice No.: SBC-GSU-ENGG-2025-ABSS-02
The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, Invites E-Tenders for the following works:

Item of work	Approx. Value
Modernization of Sharavanabelagola (SBGA) and Sri Satya Sai Prashanthi Nilayam (SSPN) Stations under Amrit Bharat Station Scheme.	Rs. 18,97,14,322.28

Last date for submission of bids: **Upto 11:00 Hrs. on 25.07.2025**
For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in
Chief Project Manager / Gati Shakti Bengaluru Division
PUB/277/AAMO/PRB/SWR/2025-26
Download the UTS Mobile App from Google Play Store for ease of booking of unreserved tickets
South Western Railway - SWR | SWRRLY | SWRAILWAYHQ | sw_railways

IN THE COURT OF XXIV ADDITIONAL CITY CIVIL AND SESSIONS JUDGE (CCH-6) AT BENGALURU
P & SC No. 337/2025
BETWEEN:
Mr. KALPESH. S AHUJA,
S/o. Late.Seetharam Ahuja,
aged about 48 years, R/at. # J-28,
J Block, Pipe Line, Malleshwaram,
Bengaluru-560 003. ...**PETITIONER**
AND -NIL- ...RESPONDENT
PUBLIC NOTICE
Whereas the above named filed captioned petition under Section 278 of the Indian Succession Act, 1925 for grant of Letter of Administration in terms of the will dated 03.12.2024 in respect to the suit schedule (In greater detail described in the Schedule hereunder). The hereunder mentioned schedule property has jointly held by the Petitioner and his deceased late Mr. Prakash S. Ahuja herein who expired on 17.12.2024 who is non other then the brother of the petitioner.
Be it known that interested parties are hereby called upon to appear before this Hon'ble Court in person or by a pleader duly on **13th Day of August 2025 (13.08.2025)** at **11:00 A.M,** before the Hon'ble XXIV Additional City Civil and Sessions Judge (CCH-6) at Bengaluru be informed to show cause against the petitioner, failing wherein the appearance will be heard and declared as Ex-parte.
SCHEDULE 'A' PROPERTY
(Description of the entire property)
All that piece and parcel of the immovable residential property bearing Municipal No. 23, PID No.27-67-23, situated at 2nd Main Road, Seshadripuram, Bangalore-560020, measuring East to West 15 Feet and North to South 21.5 Feet in all measuring 322.5 feet of sital area together with existing building standing thereon consisting of Ground, First and Second Floor measuring 900 Sq.ft. of built up area and the same is bounded on:-
East: Property belonging to M.Sathyanarayana.
West: Property belonging to M. Suryanarayana.
North: Road
South: Private Property.
SCHEDULE 'B' PROPERTY
(Property hereby conveyed under the Will)
Half (½) undivided share, right, title and interest in the Scheduled 'A' property i.e., measuring 161.25 Sq.Ft of site area and 450 Sq. Ft of the built-up area.
Given under my hand and the seal of this Hon'ble Court, this 9th day of July 2025.
By Order of the Court
***Sd/-* Senior Sheristedar**
City Civil Court, Bengaluru
Counsel for Petitioner:
Lal Kishan. N, Lal & Co. Advocates
Bengaluru-560084.

NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY
E-TENDER NOTICE
(Survey & Construction)
Dy. Chief Engineer (Construction)-II, North-Western Railway, Jodhpur through for and on behalf of the President of India, invites e-tenders **(Open Tender-Two packet system)** for the following work :- **1 Tender No. : DYCE-C-II-JU-T-12-LUNI-SMR-BLDI 2. Name of the work with its location :** Supplying and stacking 65 MM gauge stone ballast machine crushed (Hard Stone) Conforming to RDSO Specification along the cess including all station Yards From KM: 49.000 to KM: 92.000 Between Bishangarh (Excl.)-Modran (Excl.) of Jodhpur division in connection with Luni-Samdari-Bhildi Doubling Project. **3. Approx. cost of work :** Rs. 12,96,53,525.34 **4. Earnest Money to be deposited :** Rs. 7,98,300.00 **5. Tender Closing date & time :** 30.07.2025 upto15.00 hrs **6. Detail of particular, where e-tender can be seen & filled up : www.ireps.gov.in 7. Official email address : dycec2jodhpur@gmail.com**
801-CR/25
Follow us on : /NWRailways NWRailways_

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that, my client **Mr.Sreerama Reddy .G. M,** Aged about 57 years, S/o. late Mariyappa Reddy, resident at No. 26, 4th main road, 5th cross, Hebbala, Bangalore 560 024, has agreed to purchase the property mentioned in the schedule hereto, from **Jayamma w/o late. Rajanna.M since deceased LRs', 1.Sri. Anjan Kumar.M** Aged about 45 years, S/o. late Rajanna and late Jayamma, **2.Smt.Munirathna.M** Aged about 47 years, D/o. late Rajanna and late Jayamma, w/o. Sri.A.V.Mahadeva and **3.Smt. Pushpa.R,** Aged about 37 years, D/o. late Rajanna and late Jayamma, w/o. Sri.Ramesh.B Sl no.1 to 3 are Residing at No.4357, 3rd cross, A Block, Subramanyanagar Bangalore-560 021.
All persons claiming an interest in the said property or any part thereof by way of sale, gift, lease, inheritance, exchange, mortgage, charge, lien, trust, possession, easement, attachment or otherwise howsoever are hereby required to make the same known to the undersigned at office within **15 days** from the date hereof, failing which the said sale will be completed, without any reference to such claim and the same, if any, shall be considered as waived.
SCHEDULE PROPERTY
All that piece and parcel of the House property bearing **No.176,** New Municipal No.533/40/17/176, old Katha no. 591/621/176, Assessment No.36/1, 40/12, 40/22, 55/8, 44, 40/17, 49/1 and 48/1, measuring East to West: **30 feet** and North to South: **40 feet,** totally measuring **1200 Square feet,** Situated at **Thindlu Village, B.K.Layout, Yelahanka Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk,** now comes under the jurisdiction of BBMP Ward No.9 of Vidyaranyapura, Bangalore and bounded on:
East by : Site No.154, West by : Site No.177, North by : Road, South by : Private Property.
N. Eshwarprasath, Advocate
Krishnaraj Law Associates & Legal Consultanats
No. 8 B, 2nd floor, Hazarth Hameed Shah Complex (Govt. Silk Exchange Building) Near Ulsoor Gate Police Station Cubbonpet Main Road, Bangalore-02
Email Id: eshwarprasath0015@gmail.com
Mob. No. 98450 50757

बैंक ऑफ़ बड़ौदा Bank of Baroda
Bank of Baroda
(A Government of India Undertaking)
Dayananda Sagar College Branch
S.M.Hills, Kumaraswamy Layout, Bangalore-560078.

POSSESSION NOTICE (For Immovable Property Only)

Whereas, the under signed being the Authorised Officer of the **Bank of Baroda,** under Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (Ord.3 of 2002) and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued demand notices dated **17.04.2025** calling upon the **Borrowers: (1) Mr. Rakesh Kumar N A & (2) Mrs Sowmya B S, Both are residing at Address 1:** Flat No.429, 4th floor, Lotus Block, Eden Blossoms, Sy No.33/1, BBMP Khata No.134/471/33/1, Gollahalli Village, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bangalore South, Bangalore-560002 & **Address 2:** No.24, Mathrukrupa, 17th Cross, 22nd Main, Near Shamanna Garden, J P Nagar, 5th phase, Bangalore-560078., to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being **Rs. 63,38,504/- (Rupees Sixty Three Lakhs Thirty Eight Thousand Five Hundred and Four Only)** as on **15.04.2025** together with further interest upto **15.04.2025 for Loan account numbers 74370600001230 and 74370600001231** within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.
The Borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken Symbolic possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under sub section (4) of Section 13 of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002 on this **08th day of July of the year 2025.**
The Borrower/Guarantor/Mortgagors in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of **Bank of Baroda** for an amount of **Rs. 63,38,504/- (Rupees Sixty Three Lakhs Thirty Eight Thousand Five Hundred and Four Only)** as on **15.04.2025** together with further interest upto **15.04.2025 for Loan account numbers 74370600001230 and 74370600001231** and interest thereon at the contractual rate plus cost, charges and expenses till date of payment.
The borrower's attention is invited to sub-section (8) of Section 13 in respect of time available to redeem the secured assets.
Description of the Immovable Property:
2 BHK Residential flat bearing flat No.429, 4th floor, Lotus-block, "Eden Blossoms", Sy No.33/1, BBMP khata No.134/471/33/1 Gollahalli village, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk-560083. Total super build up area:- 1155 sq ft with one covered car parking space in stilt floor. Boundaries: East : BDA Property, West : 60ft BDA Road, North : BDA Property, South : 40ft BDA Road.

Date : 08.07.2025 **Sd/- Authorised Officer**
Place : Bangalore **Bank of Baroda**

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER
(District Urban Development Cell)
Kalaburagi District, Kalaburagi,
Telephone No: 08472 – 278604 Fax no: 08472 – 278602,
E-mail: ka.kalaburagi.dudc@gmail.com & itstaff_dudc_gulbarga@yahoo.com

No.DUDC/Amrut Nagarothana(Mun)-4/Shahabad/78/2022-23 Date: 08.07.2025

-: CALL-3 TENDER NOTIFICATION :-

The Executive Engineer, District Urban Development Cell, Deputy Commissioner Office Kalaburagi invites tenders in accordance with KTPP Act 1999 rules 2000 through E-Procurement Portal in two cover system using **KW-4 document** from class-1 contractors for **Amrut Nagarothana (Municipality)-4** Project Kalaburagi District Package works as detailed below:-
1) Description of Work : Construction of city Municipal Counil Office Construction of Dr. B R Ambedkar Samudaya Bhavan at Ward no.3, Providing High Mast in SC Community Grave Yard near Yallamma Temple at Ward no.3. and Construction of Compound Wall to Bhovi, Madiga & Lambani Samaj for Grave Yard PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF PUBLIC TOILETS IN GOVERNMENT OFFICE PREMISES IN COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTRE, BUS STAND, POLICE STATION & MARKET COMPLEX Reserve amount for Hitech Garden Bhanjara Samaj and providing street lights in Shahabad. TENDER NO:- **DMA/2024-25/OW/WORK_INDENT 26512/CALL-3,** 2) Amount put to Tender (Rs. In Lakhs) : **597.22,** 3) EMD Amount (Rs. In lakhs) : 8.96, 4) Class of Contractor: Eligible PWD Contractor, 5) Period of Completion: 12 Months from the date of award
Contractors can download and submit the tenders from dated: **08.07.2025** through Karnataka Public Procurement portal at https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/ Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) and Tender Processing Fee shall also be paid electronically. Calendar of Events and other information are as follows:
1) Pree Bid Meeting: **28.07.2025 at 11.30 AM**, 2) Last date & Time for Tender Queries/ Clarifications: **07.08.2025 upto 5.30 PM**, 3) Last Date of bid Submission: **08.08.2025 upto 5.30 PM**, 4) Date of Opening of Tenders (Technical Bids): **11.08.2025 at 11.00 AM**, 5) Date of Opening of Financial Bids: **18.08.2025 at 11.00 AM**
Postponement of Calender of events (if any is only through e-Procurement portal and will not be published in newspapers.

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
DUDC Kalaburagi.
DIPR/Kalaburagi/279/KSMC&A/2025-26

Your feedback will keep us Cleaner, Sharper and Bolder
Call our toll-free number **1800 102 1878**
Or write to us at **customercare@thehindu.co.in**
Scan the QR code to register your feedback
THE HINDU | thehindu businessline. | FRONTLINE | SPORTSTAR | THE HINDU Young World | THE HINDU

CLASSIFIEDS MART
TO ADVERTISE VISIT
www.thehinduads.com
CALL: Bengaluru: 98455 29981 ▪ 080-22071826
Mangaluru: 0824-2417575 ▪ 2417580
Hubballi: 0836-2338600 ▪ 2335700

PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, ALTAF Ahamad, r/at No 157/6565, 9th Cross, 13th Main, 1st Stage Block, Yaseen nagar, HBR Layout, K N Post, Bangalore 560043 have changed my name as Altaf Ahmed vide affidavit dtd sworn before Notary Sumithra N, Bluru

I, ALTAF Ahmed, r/at No 157/6565, 9th Cross, 13th Main, 1st Stage Block, Yaseen nagar, HBR Layout, K N Post, Bangalore 560043 have changed my daughters name from Alishaba Altaf to Alishba Altaf vide affidavit dtd sworn before Notary Sumithra N, Bluru

WE, SARTAJ Khalaq and Badrunnisa Aziz parents of Mohammad Farhan Sharief residing at 431,14th Cross, Fathima Layout, Govindapura, Bengaluru-560045 have changed the name of our minor son to Mohammed Farhan Shariff vide affidavit dated 09-07-2025 before Meer Hassan, Notary, B'luru.

I, Hitherto Known As Raghuraman R Alias R Raghuraman Alias Raghuraman Rajendran S/O Rajendran Residing At Flat No 8183, Prestige Tranquility, Budigere Cross, Bommenahalli, Bengaluru, Karnataka- 560059, Have Changed My Name And Shall Hereafter Be Known As Raghuraman Rajendran For All Future Purposes

I, HASINA Nasir Khan, W/o. Nasir Khan, R/at #3028, Kakaramath, Taluk: Ankola, VTC: Ankola, Post: Ankola, Dist: Uttara Kannada 581314, declare that both the names Hasina Nasir Khan (as per Aadhaar) and G Haseena (as per Indian Bank Account Term Deposit Receipt No.940977) refers / pertains to one and the same person i.e., myself only, vide Affidavit Dated: 28/06/2025, sworn before Advocate & Notary H.S.Sakalesh Aradhya, B'luru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **RAMACHANDRA HULAGUR** S/o Gururaj Hulagur, age 47 years, R/at D 803, HRC Ibbani, K V Jayaram Road, Jakkur, Bangalore-64 do hereby declare that my son name had spelt as **AGASTYA HULAGUR** in some of his documents and in some of his documents as **AGASTYA RAMACHANDRA,** henceforth he shall be known and called as **AGASTYA HULAGUR** for all purposes, vide affidavit dated 8th July 2025, sworn before Advocate and Notary **G.P. CHAYA** at Bangalore.

PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

WE, ARJUN S & Esther M, R/a #U9, 6th Cross, 5th Main, Swathanthrapalya, Srirampuram Post, Bengaluru-560021 have changed our Minor daughter's name from A Yasmeen to Aaradhana A vide affidavit dt: 07.07.2025 sworn before Notary Sivakumara.M.N, B'luru

I, Shankar S S/O Shekar K R/O 47 Lords Favor, 11th Cross Banjara Layout, Opp To Chowdappa Dental Clinic And Medicals, Horamavu, Bangalore North, Bengaluru, Karnataka-560043, Have Changed The Name Of My Minor Daughter Namely Vanisha Shankar (Aged 13 Years 4 Months). And She Shall Hereafter Be Known As Deborah Shankar For All Future Purposes.

I, Shankar S S/O Shekar K R/O 47 Lords Favor, 11th Cross Banjara Layout, Opp To Chowdappa Dental Clinic And Medicals, Horamavu, Bangalore North, Bengaluru, Karnataka-560043, Have Changed The Name Of My Minor Daughter Namely Henisha Shankar (Aged 9 Years 6 Months) And She Shall Hereafter Be Known As Esther Shankar For All Future Purposes.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **RAMACHANDRA HULAGUR** S/o Gururaj Hulagur, age 47 years, R/at D 803, HRC Ibbani, K V Jayaram Road, Jakkur, Bangalore-64 do hereby declare that my daughter name had spelt as **ANANYA HULAGUR** in some of her documents and in some of her documents as **ANANYA RAMACHANDRA,** henceforth she shall be known and called as **ANANYA HULAGUR** for all purposes, vide affidavit dated 8th July 2025, sworn before Advocate and Notary **G.P. CHAYA** at Bangalore.

I, Ramesh M Shettemmanavar, R/a #78, 26th MM Road, near Coffee Board Mariyannana Palya, Hebbal Kempapura, Bangalore-560024 hereby state that in my Son Kishore Kumar birth certificate Father's name, Mother's Name and Son name have been wrongly mentioned as Ramesh Shettemmanavar, Pushpa and Kishore Kumar but correct names are Ramesh M Shettemmanavar, Pushpa R Shettemmanavar and Kishore Kumar R Shettemmanavar vide affidavit dt:08.07.2025 sworn before Notary Diwakar.N.Kagawad, B'lore.

SUVARNA AROGYA SURAKSHA TRUST
(Department of Health & Family Welfare)
Arogya Soudha, 7st Floor, Magadi Road, Bengaluru - 23
Ph: 080-22536200 e-mail: directorsast@gmailcom, estast@gmail.com

No: HFW/SAST/FIN/20/2023-24 Date: 09.07.2025

NOTIFICATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Sub: Suvarna Arogya Suraksha Trust invites Expression of Interest for services of Chartered Accountant - reg.,

Suvarna Arogya Suraksha Trust, Department of Health & Family Welfare, Government of Karnataka registered under the Indian Trust Act of 1882 is implementing various Government Health Schemes. The Health Schemes of Government are being implemented through Suvarna Arogya Suraksha Trust. For the trust activities, Expression of Interest has been invited for providing the services of Chartered Accountant for one year. The details of EOI along with relevant documents are available at SAST website **https://sast.karnataka.gov.in/sast/** from **10.07.2025.** The last date for submission of Expression of Interest is **19.07.2025 up to 4.00 PM.**

Sd/-
Executive Director,
Suvarna Arogya Suraksha Trust
DIPR/CP/SA/1722/2025-26

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ನೀರಾವರಿ ನಿಗಮ ನಿಯಮಿತ
(ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಉದ್ಯಮ)
ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರ ಕಛೇರಿ ಕನೀನಿನಿ, ಮುಎದಂಕಾನಿ ವಿಭಾಗ ನಂ 3, ಬಾದಾಮಿ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ:ಬಾಗಲಕೋಟ
ದೂರವಾಣಿ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ : 08357-220057 **e-mail : eemlb3bdm@gmail.com**

ಸಂ: ಕನೀನಿನಿ/ಮುಎಕಾನಿ,ವಿ-3/ಡಿಬಿ/ಟೆಂಡರ/2025-26/279 ದಿನಾಂಕ:08.07.2025

(ಕೆಪಿಪಿಪಿ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಮಾತ್ರ)

ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥಾಪಕ ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರು, ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ನೀರಾವರಿ ನಿಗಮ ನಿಯಮಿತ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಇವರ ಪರವಾಗಿ ಈ ಕೆಳಗೆ ಸಹಿ ಮಾಡಿದವರಿಂದ ಲೆಕ್ಕ ಶೀರ್ಷಿಕೆ 4701 ಎಂ&ಎಂಐ ಅಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಬರುವ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗೆ, ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಸೂಕ್ತ ದರ್ಜೆ/ನಿಗಮದಲ್ಲಿ ನೊಂದಾಯಿತರಾಗಿರುವ ಅರ್ಹ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಂದ, ಶೇಕಡಾವಾರು ಇ-ಟೆಂಡರಗಳನ್ನು ಕೆಪಿಪಿಪಿ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಕರೆಯಲಾಗಿದೆ.
1) ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ : 1 ಕಾಮಗಾರಿ (ಇಂಡೆಂಟ ಸಂ. KNNL/2025-26/BD/WORK_INDENT2926/CALL-2, 2) ಟೆಂಡರಗಿಟ್ಟ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಯ ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ:- ರೂ..261.58 ಲಕ್ಷ, 3) ನಿಗದಿಪಡಿಸಿದ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಯ ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ ಮೊತ್ತ :- ರೂ.3,93,000.00 , 4) ಟೆಂಡರನ ದಿನಾಂಕಗಳ ವಿವರ : (1) ಇ-ಟೆಂಡರ ದಾಖಲೆಗಳನ್ನು ಡೌನಲೋಡ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಳ್ಳಲು ಹಾಗೂ ಭರ್ತಿ ಮಾಡಿದ ಇ-ಟೆಂಡರ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 11-8-2025 ಸಾಯಂಕಾಲ 4-00 ಗಂಟೆ ವರೆಗೆ. (2) ಪ್ರೀ-ಬಿಡ್ ಸಭೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ 06-8-2025 ರಂದು ಮುಂಜಾನೆ 11-00 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ, (3) ಟೆಂಡರ ಆಕ್ಷೇಪಣೆಗಳಿಗೆ/ ಸ್ಪಷ್ಟೀಕರಣಕ್ಕಾಗಿ ನಿಗದಿಪಡಿಸಿದ ದಿನಾಂಕ:- 05-8-2025 ರಂದು ಸಾಯಂಕಾಲ 4-30 ಗಂಟೆ ವರೆಗೆ, (4) ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ : 12-8-2025 ರಂದು ಸಾಯಂಕಾಲ 16-00 ಗಂಟೆಯ ನಂತರ. (5) ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ : 18-8-2025 ಅಥವಾ ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ಅನುಮೋದನೆ ನಂತರ
ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರ ಅರ್ಹತೆ/ಟೆಂಡರ ನಿಯಮಗಳು/ಟೆಂಡರಪ್ರೊಸೆಸ್ಸಿಂಗ ಶುಲ್ಕ ಇತ್ಯಾದಿ ವಿವರಗಳಿಗೆ ವೆಬ್ ಸೈಟ www.kpp.karnataka.gov.in ಮೂಲಕ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದು ಅಥವಾ ಈ ಕಛೇರಿಯ ಸಮಯದಲ್ಲಿ ದೂರವಾಣಿ ಸಂ.08357-220057 ಕ್ಕೆ ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸಬಹುದು. ಟೆಂಡರಗಳನ್ನು ಯಾವುದೇ ಕಾರಣ ನೀಡದೆ ತಿರಸ್ಕರಿಸುವ ಅಧಿಕಾರವನ್ನು ಈ ಕೆಳಗೆ ಸಹಿ ಮಾಡಿದವರು ಹೊಂದಿರುತ್ತಾರೆ.
ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿಗಾಗಿ ಈ ಕಛೇರಿ ದೂರವಾಣಿ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ:08357-220057 ರಲ್ಲಿ ಕಛೇರಿ ವೇಳೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸಬಹುದು.
ಸಹಿ/-ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಇಂಜಿನೀಯರರು,
ಕನೀನಿನಿ.ಮ.ಎ.ಕಾ.ನಿ.ವಿಭಾಗ ನಂ.3,ಬಾದಾಮಿ.
DIPR/BGK/RO-NO-164/KSMCA/2025-26

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Executive Engineer, Bommanahalli Division,
Begur Main Road, Bommanahalli, Bengaluru - 560068.

No: BBMP/EE/BD/Tend-03/2025-26 **Date: 09-07-2025**

INVITATION FOR TENDER (IFT) - (SHORT TERM)
(Single & Two Cover Tender) (Through GOK KPP Portal only)

Executive Engineer, Bommanahalli Division, BBMP, Bengaluru invites tenders from eligible Contractors registered in BBMP or equivalent registration with KPWD / CPWD / BWSSB / Railways / MES / National Highway or any State Government Organizations for the Construction of Works detailed below.
(Standard Tender Document - KW-2)

Sl. No.	Name of the Work / Category
	Construction and Improvements of Selected Roads and RCC Drains in below Wards.
1	Vijaya Bank Layout & Surrounding Areas in Ward No. 215, Bilekahalli. **(2nd Call) - (Others) - Estimated Amount (Rs. in Lakhs): 50.00, EMD Amount (in Rs.): 1,00,000/-**
2	Seenappa Layout and Surrounding Areas in Ward No. 217, Kodichikkanahalli. **(2nd Call) - (CAT-II(A)) - Estimated Amount (Rs. in Lakhs): 40.00, EMD Amount (in Rs.): 80,000/-**
3	Krishna Layout & Surrounding Areas in Ward No. 217, Kodichikkahahalli. **(2nd Call) - (Others) - Estimated Amount (Rs. in Lakhs): 70.00, EMD Amount (in Rs.): 1,40,000/-**
4	NGR Layout & Surrounding Areas in Ward No. 218, Bommanahalli. **(2nd Call) - (Others) - Estimated Amount (Rs. in Lakhs): 75.00, EMD Amount (in Rs.): 1,50,000/-**
5	Ambedkar Nagara & Surrounding Areas in Ward No. 218, Bommanahalli. **(2nd Call) - (SC) - Estimated Amount (Rs. in Lakhs): 50.00, EMD Amount (in Rs.): 50,000/-**
6	Balaji Layout & Munireddy Surrounding Areas in Ward No. 219, Hongasandra. **(2nd Call) - (SC) - Estimated Amount (Rs. in Lakhs): 70.00, EMD Amount (in Rs.): 70,000/-**
7	Gharebhavipalya & Surrounding Areas in Ward No. 220, Gharebhavipalya. **(2nd Call) - (SC) - Estimated Amount (Rs. in Lakhs): 80.00, EMD Amount (in Rs.): 80,000/-**
8	Annayya Reddy Layout Surrounding Areas in Ward No. 214, Puttenahalli. **(2nd Call) - (ST) - Estimated Amount (Rs. in Lakhs): 40.00, EMD Amount (in Rs.): 40,000/-**
9	Thimmareddy Layout & Surrounding Areas in Ward No. 216, Hulimavu. **(2nd Call) - (Others) - Estimated Amount (Rs. in Lakhs): 50.00, EMD Amount (in Rs.): 1,00,000/-**
10	Janatha Colony Surrounding Areas in Ward No. 216, Hulimavu. **(2nd Call) - (Others) - Estimated Amount (Rs. in Lakhs): 50.00, EMD Amount (in Rs.): 1,00,000/-**
11	Avani Sringerinagara & Surrounding Areas in Ward No. 216, Hulimavu. **(2nd Call) - (SC) - Estimated Amount (Rs. in Lakhs): 50.00, EMD Amount (in Rs.): 50,000/-**
12	CM Layout & ITI Layout Surrounding Areas in Ward No.223, Mangammanapalya. **(2nd Call) - (SC) - Estimated Amount (Rs. in Lakhs): 50.00, EMD Amount (in Rs.): 50,000/-**
13	Improvements to Road and Drain in Ward No. 216, Arakere. **(2nd Call) - (Others) - Estimated Amount (Rs. in Lakhs): 50.00, EMD Amount (in Rs.): 1,00,000/-**

Calendar of Events: **1)** Tender document can be downloaded from the GOK Karnataka Public Procurement Portal Website: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in from 11-07-2025. 2)** Last Date for Submission of Tender Documents **on or before 16.00 Hrs. on 19-07-2025. 3)** Technical / Financial Bids will be Opened on the Website: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in at the Office of the Executive Engineer, Bommanahalli Division on 21-07-2025 at 11.30 Hours onwards.** Further details can be had from the above office.

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
Bommanahalli Division, BBMP.

NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY
शुद्धि पत्र
सं. एस जी/32/2/एन आई टी/24R/2024-25/ शुद्धि पत्र दिनांकः 08.07.2025
इस कार्यालय द्वारा ज्ञापित खुली निविदा सूचना संख्या SNT - JP-24R- 2024-25 (NIT - 19.6.2024) जो की दिनांक 14.07.2024 को खोली जानी है में निम्नलिखित संशोधन किये जाते है। **कार्य का नाम :–** जयपुर मंडल मे एफ्ट्रॉनिक्स मैक के डेटा लॉगर, आरटीयू, सीओए सिस्टम, एसपीएयू सिस्टम और डीएलएमसी से संबंधित विभिन्न वस्तुओं का तीन वर्षों के लिए व्यापक वार्षिक रखरखाव अनुबंध।

क्रम संख्या	ई–टेंडर खुलने की तारीख (पूर्व में)	संशोधित – ई–टेंडर खुलने की तारीख
1	14.07.2025	28.07.2025

अन्य शर्ते यथावत रहेगी। **मंडल रेल प्रबंधक (एस एंड टी) जयपुर**
Follow us on : /NWRailways NWRailways_ **808-CR/25**

NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY
No. JHS/Comm/e-Auction/25/118 **Date: 07.07.2025**
E-Auction Notice
On Behalf of The President Of India, The Divisional Railway Manager, (Commercial) Jhansi invites e-auction as per categories given as under:-

Cat.	Catalogue No.	Asset Details
Parcel	JHS-LEASING-42	01. SLR 02 Comp. = F-1 & F-II unit in Train no. 12198. 02. SLR 01 Comp. = R-1 unit in Train no. 11086.
Auction Start : 22.07.2025 at 11:00 hrs		
Auction End : 22.07.2025 at 11:50 hrs		

Note: Prospective bidders are requested to visit e-Auction Leasing module on IREPS website (**www.ireps.gov.in**). The Lot-wise details are available therein under the above mentioned Catalogue Number. **1184/25 (MG)**
North central railways | @CPRONCR | www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in

केनरा बैंक Canara Bank
सिंडिकेट Syndicate
ARM BRANCH-II,2ND FLOOR,CIRCLE OFFICE,SPENCERS TOWERS, NO.86,M.G ROAD ,BENGALURU
PH NO: 080-25310181, E-MAIL-CB6298@Canarabank.com

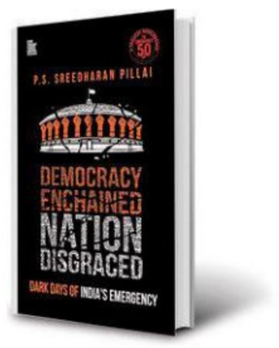
POSSESSION NOTICE [SECTION 13(4)]
[Rule - 8 (1)] (For immovable Property)

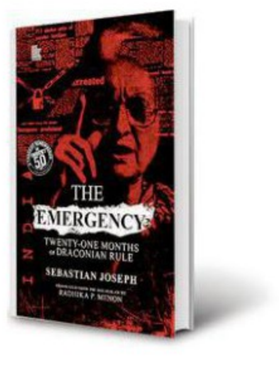
Whereas The undersigned being the authorized Officer of the Canara Bank, under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under Section 13(2) read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued a Demand Notice dated **15.01.2025** calling upon the Borrower **Mr. Mahesh Nanjungud S/O Chandrashekar , Mrs. Deepa Mahesh W/o Sri Mahesh Nanjungud BOTH ARE RESIDING AT** :8A ,Swarga ,5th cross , 5thMain ,Sri Krishna Nagar, JP Nagar 7th Phase ,Bangalore -560078.
Both are also AT : Residing at No 248, 3rd Main , BHCS Layout Bangalore -560061. to repay the amount mentioned in the notice of Rs.51,19,729.07 /-(Rupees Fifty One Lakhs Nineteen Thousand Seven Hundred Twenty Nine And Seven Paisa Only)and interest thereon within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice dated **15.01.2025.**
The Borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrowers and the public in general that the undersigned has taken symbolic possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with rule 8 of the Security Interest Enforcement) Rules 2002 on this **07th day of July 2025.**
The borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of Canara Bank ARM -II Branch for an amount of **Rs.47,96,429.07/-(Rupees Forty Seven Lacs Ninety Six Thousand Four Hundred Twenty Nine And Paise Seven Only) as on 07.07.2025** plus interest and other charges thereon.
The borrower's attention is invited to the provisions of Sub-section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.
NOTE : It is hereby informed that our earlier Possession Notice dated 20.03.2025 is withdrawn.
Description of the Immovable Property
All that piece and parcel of the first floor Building bearing Municipal No.29/2, New PID No. 118 -W0057-17-2(OLD PID No. 48-47-29/2) formerly formed in site No. 24 out of Sy. Nos.85 and 86 of DoddabylakhaneVillage ,KasabaHobli, Bangalore, situated at First Cross Raja Ram Mohan Roy Extension ,Corporation Division No 44 (old No 38) Bangalore -5600027 Within the administrative limits of Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagar Palike and bounded on the : **East By :** Road , **West By :**Property bearing No 27 belonging to Sridharan, **North By :** Property bearing Nos. 29 and 29/1 belonging to T.V Ramasastry and T R Jayakumar and **South By :** Property bearing old No 23 belonging to Krishnaiah Setty.

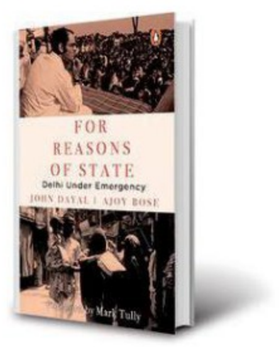
Date : 07.07.2025 **Authorised Officer**
Place : Bangalore **Canara Bank**

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Troubled times: Jayaprakash Narayan leading a march to Parliament in Delhi in March, 1975. THE HINDU ARCHIVES







Turbulent history: lessons from the dark days of Emergency

From bulldozer action, torture in custody, draconian rule, to acts of resistance both at home and abroad, new and old books examine the forces that led to the imposition of Emergency in 1975 by Indira Gandhi, its aftermath and the learning for contemporary times

Ziya Us Salam

April 1976 was a month with long nights and no dawns. Fear hung in the air. There had been reports of an impending doom in Delhi, when a bulldozer would arrive at people's doorstep, demolishing all that they had earned, nursed and nurtured for generations. The worst apprehensions soon came true. "Early on the morning of 13 April 1976, a rusty old bulldozer wheezed and creaked down Asaf Ali Road towards Turkman Gate…", John Dayal and Ajoy Bose documents in *For Reasons of State: Delhi Under Emergency* (India Viking/2018).

Kalan Mahal, Turkman Gate, Dujana House all bore the brunt of the machine that spared no brick and mortar structure in its way. As the bulldozer demolished houses that had stood there for generations, a million dreams were crushed. Clearly shaken, women and children soon climbed on to the waiting trucks as commanded by a lower level functionary of the DDA to literally start life from scratch in Nand Nagri, Trilokpuri, Seelampur, and Ranjit Nagar – places they did not know existed. The men protested, some loudly, most feebly.

Many held Jagmohan, the DDA chairman, to be the villain. Others felt Rukhsana Sultana, the enthusiastic proponent of coercive family planning programme to be responsible. She, after all, had Sanjay Gandhi's ear. A few turned to Subhadra Joshi, the local MP of the Congress. Most knew it was the doing of one man: Sanjay Gandhi. No one had the courage to say so. Finally, a thousand residents signed a memorandum addressed to the Gandhi scion, pleading for the bulldozer action to be halted.

Mountain of complaints

Dayal and Bose wrote: "A small band of Youth Congress workers…met the prince himself. Sanjay Gandhi greeted them coldly when he heard what they had to say. They presented him with a memorandum signed by more than 1,000 people of Turkman Gate demanding the end of the demolition drive. The prince…nodded once and the meeting was over. After they left, the prince tore up the memorandum into little shreds. He had little time for the rabble. He had to catch a plane to Simla." Delhi, apparently, was too hot. For him. And for the unfortunate bulldozer victims, now left to pick up the pieces of their life again. They were among the less unfortunate ones.

The victims of police brutality were worse off. The Justice Shah Commission received a multitude of complaints about police excesses. Seasoned politician-lawyer and Governor of Goa, P.S. Sreedharan Pillai, who was a first year law student at Kozhikode Law College at that time, has written in detail about it in *Democracy Enchained Nation Disgraced: Dark Days of India's Emergency* (Konark Publishers/2025). "Hundreds of pieces of evidence were presented before the Justice Shah Commission, clearly implicating Sanjay Gandhi and his coteries in the brutal actions in Turkman Gate and other areas across Delhi….The infamous and brutal torture method known as *uruttal* (rolling) was implemented in most police stations."

Pillai goes on to write of other torture methods, including 'fanning' where the victim's hands were tied to the blades of a fan which was then turned on. All along he seeks to highlight how the common citizen was dispossessed of all rights, even the basic dignity of food and clothing. Understandably, as Pillai writes, "Foreign nations began to question whether India still deserved to be called a 'civilised community'." Of course, there were Indians abroad whose heart beat for the nation. This is written in much greater detail by Sugata Srinivasaraju in *The Conscience Network: A Chronicle of Resistance to a Dictatorship* (Vintage/2025).

International pressure

Srinivasaraju undertakes a painstaking exercise to chronicle the two years when India was under Emergency rule where the author's scholarship and vast experience comes to the fore. While focussing on many of the international developments around Emergency, he makes space to talk of the challenges and the troubles of the likes of Indians for Democracy founder Anand Kumar who was threatened with deportation for raising his voice against Emergency.

He also writes about Anand Patwardhan, documentary filmmaker who hailed from a family of freedom fighters, and whose film *Waves of Revolution* became an effective means of protest against the Emergency, and Subramanian Swamy, the "maverick academic" who had disguised himself as a Sikh driver of Nanaji Deshmukh in India, and then on a lecture tour across the U.S. stated, "It was completely false to suggest that only a handful of Western -educated elite were complaining about the Emergency."

Defiance at home

By November 1975, there was resistance in 300 districts across India, Swamy revealed. In the U.S., there were posters highlighting the ongoing wrongs in India, seeking the help of common citizens with posters like, 'Support Political Freedom in India' and 'Support Human Rights in India'.

Meanwhile, the government in India alternated between using its long arm of pliant diplomats and the inevitable recognition that the move had failure written all over. People could not be silenced forever. Writes M.A. Baby in his foreword to Sebastian Joseph's *The Emergency: Twenty-One Months of Draconian Rule* (Konark Publishing/2025), translated from the Malayalam by Radhika P. Menon, "It was a dark chapter in Indian democracy as fundamental rights were suspended, the press was censored, and thousands of political opponents were detained without trial." Then the seasoned politician has a word of caution for contemporary times, writing, "Today, even though there is no formal suspension of civil liberties or censorship of the press, we are witnessing a disturbing trend: people exercising their liberties are often attacked – physically and digitally. The mainstream media, by and large, appears reluctant to question the powers that be."

It reminds us of L.K. Advani's words in 1975, and reproduced in Pillai's book about the media then, "You were merely asked to bend but you chose to crawl." The Emergency's lessons remain valuable.

THE DAILY QUIZ

Please send in your answers to dailyquiz@thehindu.co.in

Some movies revolve around the medical conditions of their protagonists, or their plots are sharply influenced by the onset of illness. A quiz on such films

Ramya Kannan

QUESTION 1

In this biographical film on the life of a Nobel winning mathematician, what was the diagnosis the doctor makes? It was also panned for allowing the portrayal of the rejection of drugs as essential for cure. Name the movie and the condition.

QUESTION 2

In the Tamil movie *Thenali*, Kamal Hassan plays the titular character, a Sri Lankan with all kinds of fears, crashing the holiday of his psychiatrist. What condition is Thenali suffering from?

QUESTION 3

In *Finding Nemo*, one character, Dory, is portrayed as a fish with short term memory loss. What is the scientific term for this condition?

QUESTION 4

In his role as Christy Brown, Daniel Day Lewis delivers an Oscar winning performance of a young man diagnosed with _____ at birth, which affects most of his body. However, he learns to paint and write with the only unaffected limb in his body, his left foot. Fill in the blank.

QUESTION 5

This film is loosely inspired by the writer's own experience with cancer. He reportedly wrote the lead character Adam based on himself. What kind of rare cancer does the protagonist, played by Joseph-Gordon Levitt, have in the delightful and heartwarming drama *50/50*?

Visual question:
The female protagonist in this film, Satine, is a courtesan and star performer. She is diagnosed with what condition?

Questions and Answers to the previous day's daily quiz: 1. The screenplay of *Baazi* was written by this Indian cinematic legend. **Ans: Balraj Sahni**
2. This flick made in 1953 is a period piece set in the 16th century depicting an uprising against the Portuguese. **Ans: *Baaz***
3. In *Aar Paar*, this is Guru Dutt's profession and this sibling assisted him the direction. **Ans: Taxi driver; Atmaram**
4. This popular star is said to have rejected a role in the romantic comedy *Mr. & Mrs. 55*. **Ans: Vyjayanthimala Bali**
5. *Sailaab* made in 1956 was produced by this man. **Ans: Mukul Roy**
6. In *Pyaasa*, these actors were supposed to play the roles Mala Sinha and Waheeda Rehman enacted. **Ans: Nargis and Madhubala**
7. Name the Oscar-winner who designed the costumes for *Kaagaz Ke Phool*. **Ans: Bhanu Athaiya**
Visual: Name this Dadasaheb Phalke awardee. **Ans: V.K. Murthy who was the cinematographer for all the films**
Early Birds: Mohan Lal Patel| Piyali Tuli| Tom Alan Faith| Tamanjit Bisla| Parimal Das

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Know your English

K. Subrahmanian
S. Upendran

"You look terrible. Are you feeling O.K.?"

"I haven't been sleeping well. I have a big test in Physics tomorrow and I've been preparing all weekend."

"Preparing all weekend! That's great. So, do you feel confident?"

"Confident? No! I am anxious to take the test."

"That's nice to know. I've never…"

"…what do you mean it's nice to know! I'm telling you I'm worried about the test and you…"

"…if you are worried about the test, then you are not 'anxious to take the test', but you are 'anxious about taking the test'."

" 'Anxious about', 'anxious to', what's the difference?"

"Well, when you say you are 'anxious about' something, it means, you are worried about it. For example, if I say, 'I am anxious about having dinner with my boss', it means I'm worried about having dinner with him."

"But why are you worried?"

"It could be any reason. Maybe, I'm afraid that he's going to tell me that I'm not doing a good job or something."

"I see. If I say, the Prime Minister is anxious about meeting the reporters, it means that he is worried about meeting the reporters?"

"That's right. He's not looking forward to meeting them."

"I see. But if I said, the Prime Minister is anxious to meet the reporters, what does that mean?"

"If you are 'anxious to do something', it means that you want to do it very much. So, in the example that you just gave, it means that the Prime Minister wants to meet the reporters very much. There's nothing more that he would rather do."

"So, if I say, I'm anxious to have dinner with my boss, it means that I'm looking forward to having dinner with him?"

"That's right. You're not worried about it but looking forward to it. You're eager to have dinner with your boss."

"I see. So 'anxious to' is the same thing as 'eager to'?"

"I guess you could say that! But some people object to the use of 'anxious to'. They think it's wrong to say, 'I am anxious to meet the Prime Minister'. They feel that you should say, 'I'm eager to meet the Prime Minister'."

"Is it wrong then to say, 'I'm anxious to meet…'?"

"…no. So many people use the expression 'anxious to' instead of 'eager to' that it would be silly to object to it."

"So, it would be o.k. to say 'I'm anxious to become a politician'?"

"Yes, it would. Besides, politics would be right up your street."

"Right up my street?"

"When you say something is 'right up someone's street', it means it is ideally suited to his/her interests or abilities. For example, I could say, doing crossword puzzles is right up my street. I love it."

"Attending parties is right up Suman's street. Can I say that?"

"Sounds o.k. to me."

Published in The Hindu on March 18, 1997.

Word of the day

Pan (used as a noun and a verb): cooking utensil consisting of a wide metal vessel; make a sweeping movement; express a totally negative opinion of

Synonyms: tear apart, trash

Usage: *The critics panned the performance.*

Pronunciation: newsth.live/panpro

International Phonetic Alphabet: /pæn/

For feedback and suggestions for Text & Context, please write to **letters@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Text & Context'

Fee hiked for govt. seats in engineering, architecture

State government has announced a 50% fee waiver for civil, mechanical, automobile, textile technology, and silk technology streams, which are seeing fewer takers

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The State government has increased the fee for government quota seats in engineering and architecture courses for the academic year 2025-26. The fee has been increased by 7.5% for government quota seats in private unaided technical educational institutions and by 5% in government engineering colleges.

However, the government has announced a 50% fee waiver for five engineering courses - civil, mechanical, automobile, textile technology, and silk technology - which are seeing fewer takers. The fee waiver will be applicable only in government colleges.

According to the order issued on July 5, the fee for government quota CET engineering seats in Type 1 private colleges has been pegged at ₹81,800, up from ₹76,135 last year, and in Type 2 private colleges at ₹91,000, up from ₹84,596 last year, apart from university registration and other processing fee. The fees will total to ₹1,12,410 in Type 1 private colleges and ₹1,21,610 in Type 2 private colleges. In COMED-K Type 1 colleges, the fee has been pegged at ₹2 lakh, up from ₹1,86,111 last year, and ₹2,81,100, up from ₹2,61,477 last year, for Type 2 COMED-K colleges. These colleges will not have additional university registration and processing fees. As mentioned in the order, the private engineering colleges are allowed to charge up to ₹20,000 as additional charges in the first year. The government has exempted the tuition fee for the candidates admitted under 5% supernumerary quota seats.

As per the order, the fee for all seats in government engineering colleges and 95% of seats in aided engineering colleges (5% management quota) is ₹44,200, up from ₹42,116 last year. The fee for the 50% seats in engineering and architecture courses in the constituent colleges of the University of Mysore, Visvesvaraya Technological University (VTU), is ₹44,200, including university registration and other processing fees. The fees at University Visvesvaraya College of Engineering (UVCE) is ₹49,600, up from ₹47,250 last year.

In a bid to attract more students to courses which have had fewer takers over the past few years, the State government has announced a 50% fee waiver in government engineering colleges for mechanical engineering, automobile engineering, civil engineering, engineering in textile technology and silk technology courses. "Students in these courses, where less than 50% of the approved admissions are enrolled in government engineering colleges, have been given a 50% fee waiver," the order reads.

Fee structure for engineering and architecture courses

Type of quota	2024-25 (in ₹)	2025-26 (in ₹)
Government quota seats in type-1 private colleges	76,135	81,800
Government quota seats in type-2 private colleges	84,596	91,000
Government quota in COMED-K type-1 colleges	1,86,111	2,00,000
Government quota seats in type-2 colleges	2,61,477	2,81,100
Government, aided and VTU constituent colleges	42,116	44,200
UVCE	47,250	49,600

Study finds higher degree of depression among 'severely injured' accident victims

Afshan Yasmeen
BENGALURU

A recent study by a team of researchers from NIMHANS has found higher degrees of depression among 'severely injured' Road Traffic Accident (RTA) victims. Aimed at understanding the 'quality of life', anxiety, and depression levels among the victims of road accidents, the study has recommended that following medical treatment, the victims and their families must undergo psychosocial counselling to lessen their anxiety and enhance their quality of life.

The study titled *Quality of life, anxiety and depression among non-fatal road traffic accidents victims in South India* was published in Social Sciences and Humanities Open, an open access scientific journal, on June 28.

Road traffic accidents, whether fatal or non-fatal, can be the cause of substantial financial hardships and significant mental health issues to victims and their families. While several studies done in the past have shown that RTAs lead to stigma, stress and anxiety, depression and economic burden on individuals and their families, there are a limited number of studies available on the association between RTA victims' quality of life (QoL) and their stressful conditions. QoL assessment is widely used for many ailments, for instance on stroke-affected, hypertensive, and diabetic patients.

"There is no Indian research available on depression, anxiety or the quality of life among RTA victims. Our study recommends that psychosocial counselling following medical treatment is a must for RTA victims and their families," Palaniappan Marimuthu, Professor and head of the Department of Biostatistics at NIMHANS, told *The Hindu*.

"The objective of this paper is to understand depression among non-fatal RTA victims in terms of quality of life, anxiety and associated socio-demographic variables. This paper is part of a larger study funded by the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)," said Dr. Marimuthu, who is the corresponding author of the study. For the study, the researchers randomly selected 407 non-fatal RTA victims from the State Crime Record Bureaus (SCRBs) of Karnataka and Tamil Nadu. Data collection was done using socio-demographic and accident information, Hospital Anxiety and Depression Scale (HADS) and WHO Quality of Life tools. "Non-fatal victims were classified into 'severely injured' and 'no serious injury'. When age, education and expenditure on RTA treatment were compared, except age the other two variables were statistically significant. The four domains of QoL also significantly differed between these two groups," the doctor explained.

Anxiety as variable

Manoj Kumar Sharma, Professor at the Department of Clinical Psychology, who also heads SHUT Clinic at NIMHANS and is part of the research team for this study, said anxiety is the most important variable which contributed in almost all the quantiles of depression followed by psychological health, social relationship, environmental health and age of the RTA victims.

Kristu Jayanti College granted deemed-to-be-university tag

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Kristu Jayanti College (Autonomous) has officially been declared a deemed to be university by the Ministry of Education, Government of India.

In a release, the institution highlighted its latest accreditation achievement, the prestigious NAAC Grade A++ with an outstanding CGPA of 3.78 in its third cycle of assessment. This places Kristu Jayanti among the top-tier higher education institutions in India.

Advertisement No. 61/2025
Government of India
Public Enterprises Selection Board
invites applications for the post of
DIRECTOR (TECHNICAL & OPERATION)
in
HLL LIFECARE LIMITED
Last date of submission of application by applicants is by 15:00 hours on
04th August, 2025
Last date of forwarding of applications by the Nodal Officers to PESB is by 17:00 hours on
13th August, 2025
For details login to website https://pesb.gov.in

IB Diploma Programme results announced

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The International School Bangalore (TISB) has announced the International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Programme results for the class of 2025.

In its 25th year, the school reported that over 35 students scored between 40 and 45 points. Two students, Avanthika Krishnan and Unnathi Venkatesh, achieved the perfect score of 45.

Seven students scored 44 points, and five scored 43. The graduating class consists of 143 students. According to a school release, students have received university placements at institutions such as Stanford University, Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Harvard Univeristy, U.S.

Bindu Hari, vice-chairperson, noted that the outcomes align with the school's academic goals.

KCET: Option entry begins for engineering admissions

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Karnataka Examinations Authority (KEA) has begun the first round of option entry for admissions to engineering, veterinary, agriculture, Bachelor of Physiotherapy (BPT), and Allied Health Sciences (AHS) courses, excluding medical courses. Candidates can enter their choices until July 15.

The seat matrices for the Medical, Dental, Ayurveda, Homeopathy, Unani, BSc Nursing, Architecture, Yoga, and Naturopathy courses have not yet been released by the respective departments. Once these

Candidates have been advised to carefully review the seat matrix and follow the preference order while entering their options

are made available, the option entry for these courses will also be opened, stated KEA Executive Director H. Prasanna in a press release. The results of the mock allotment will be announced on July 19, after which candidates will have time until July 22 to rearrange their preferences. The final seat allotment results will be published on July 25.

Candidates have been advised to carefully review the seat matrix and follow the preference order while entering their options. Detailed instructions are provided in the UGCET-2025 Seat Allotment Information Brochure, which candidates are encouraged to read. Additionally, they can refer to videos available on the KEA Vikasana YouTube Channel for further guidance.

For courses such as Veterinary Science, Animal Husbandry, and Agricultural Sciences, candidates who have received practical ranks must enter options separately for both practical and regular seats.

Man arrested for killing wife

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A man, hailing from Srinivaspura, was arrested for killing his wife at their house in Bommanahalli over a domestic row on Tuesday. The accused, identified as Harish Kumar, a civil engineer earlier worked at a private firm and is currently unemployed, was booked for the murder of his wife, identified as Padmaja, 29, who is also an engineer employed at a private firm in the city. The couple has two daughters aged 3.5 and 1.5 years old.

According to the police, the accused used to come home drunk and pick fights with the victim over trivial issues. On the day of the incident, Harish and Padmaja argued over the latter's shopping. As the arguments escalated, Harish reportedly strangled Padmaja, assaulted her, and, in a fit of rage, stamped on her neck after she fell on the ground.

During the inquiry, the 3.5-year-old daughter of the couple narrated the incident to the officials.

State to begin HPV vaccination drive for 14-year-old girls in mining-affected districts

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

To prevent cervical cancer, Karnataka's Health Department will soon launch a vaccination drive to administer the Human Papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine to 14-year-old girls in mining-affected districts. A government order to this effect was issued on Tuesday.

The initiative, announced in the State's 2025-26 budget, follows recommendations by an expert committee to provide two doses of the HPV vaccine to girls aged 9 years to 14 years as a preventive measure against cervical cancer. According to the G.O., the vaccination drive will begin in eight taluks across four mining-affected districts.

The programme covers the taluks of Gubbi, Chikkanayakanahalli, and Tiptur in Tumakuru district; Sandur in Ballari; Holalkere, Hosadurga, and Molakalmuru in Chitradurga; and Hosapete in Vijayanagara. A grant of ₹4.74 crore has been sanctioned through the Karnataka Mining Environment Restoration Corporation for the campaign, with the cost of each dose fixed at ₹1,260. The department has identified 37,470 eligible beneficiaries. The vaccine will be administered to girls enrolled in government and aided schools as well as to out-of-school girls. To avail themselves of the vaccine, beneficiaries are required to possess a below poverty line (BPL) ration card.

Timings
BENGALURU

THURSDAY, JUL. 10	
RISE	06:00 SET 18:50
RISE	18:39 SET 05:13
FRIDAY, JUL. 11	
RISE	06:00 SET 18:50
RISE	19:30 SET 06:10
SATURDAY, JUL. 12	
RISE	06:00 SET 18:50
RISE	20:17 SET 07:07

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	32	25
Mysuru	29	20
Bengaluru	28	21

Bengaluru Today
28°C The weather will be dry. Day will be comfortable. Night will be pleasant.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
29°C Morning will be pleasant. Day will be slight warm. Night also will be pleasant. Dry weather to prevail.

© Copyright Skymet Weather 2025
All rights reserved.

THE HINDU
DISCLAIMER: Readers are requested to verify and make appropriate enquiries to satisfy themselves about the veracity of an advertisement before responding to any published in this newspaper. THG PUBLISHING PVT LTD., the Publisher & Owner of this newspaper, does not vouch for the authenticity of any advertisement or advertiser or for any of the advertiser's products and/or services. In no event can the Owner, Publisher, Printer, Editor, Director/s, Employees of this newspaper/company be held responsible/liable in any manner whatsoever for any claims and/or damages for advertisements in this newspaper.

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER
(District Urban Development Cell)
Kalaburagi District, Kalaburagi,
Telephone No: 08472 – 278604 Fax no: 08472 – 278602,
E-mail: ka.kalaburagi.dudc@gmail.com & itstaff_dudc_gulbarga@yahoo.com

No.DUDC/Amrut Nagarothana(Mun)-4/INC 5%/86/2024-25 Date: 08.07.2025

-: CALL-2 TENDER NOTIFICATION :-

The Executive Engineer, District Urban Development Cell, Deputy Commissioner Office Kalaburagi invites tenders in accordance with KTPP Act 1999 rules 2000 through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal in two cover system using **KW-4 document** from Eligible PWD Civil Contractors for **Amrut Nagarothana (Municipality)-4 Incentive 5% Grant** Kalaburagi District Package works as detailed below:-
1) Description of Work : Construction of Welcome Gate to Bijapur Road Shapur Road Kalburagi Road Starting from ULB Limits Beautification and Road Wedding work from Fire station to Taluka Stadium RCC Drain construction in Sy no 1 ward no 19 ward 12 ward no 5 and BD Layout RCC Road construction in Ward no 1 ward no 23 in ward no 22 RCC Slab in Khaja Colony to near Dr. A P J Abdul Kalam School and RCC Road Construction near Nilkanth House and from Khaja Colony to Urdu school behind Drain construction in Jewargi Town. TENDER NO:- DMA/2025-26/OW/WORK_ INDENT39206/CALL-2, 2) Amount put to Tender (Rs. In Lakhs): **169.36 (Excluding GST),** 3) EMD Amount (Rs.) : 2,55,000/-, 4) Class of Contractor : Eligible PWD registered contractor, 5) Period of completion excluding rainy season : 12 Months from the date of award

Contractors can download and submit the tenders from dated: 08.07.2025 through Karnataka Public Procurement portal at https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/ Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) and Tender Processing Fee shall also be paid electronically. Calendar of Events and other information are as follows:
1) Last Date & Time for Tender Queries/Clarifications: **22.07.2025 upto 5.30 PM**, 2) Last Date & Time for receipt of Tenders: **23.07.2025 upto 5.30 PM**, 3) Date & Time for Opening of Technical Bid: **25.07.2025 at 11.00 AM**, 4) Date & Time for Opening of Financial Bid: **01.08.2025 at 11.00 AM**

Postponement of Calender of events (or if any information is only published through e-Procurement portal only) and will not be published in newspapers.

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
DUDC Kalaburagi.

DIPR/Kalaburagi/273/KSMC&A/2025-26

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY
Tender Notice No. B-SG-P-SBC-5EI-SBC-MYS
Dated : 28-06-2025
The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, invites E-Tenders for the following works.

Name of the Work	Approx. Value
Replacement of Panel interlocking with Electronic Interlocking system at Nayandahalli, Hejjala, Bidadi, Channapatna and Mysuru New Goods Terminus Stations in connection with provision of Automatic signalling system in KSR Bengaluru city Jn-Mysuru section over Bengaluru and Mysuru Divisions of South Western Railway.	Rs. 44,64,37,630/-

Last date for submission of bids:
Upto 15:00 Hrs on 31-07-2025
For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in
Deputy Chief Signal & Telecommunication Engineer/Project/Bengaluru
PUB/251/AAS/PRB/SWR/2025-26
Download the UTS Mobile App from Google Play Store for ease of booking of unreserved tickets
South Western Railway-SWR SWRRLY @SWRAILWAYHQ @sw_railways

PUBLIC NOTICE
My client, **SRI. K.M. SIDDALINGA TEJASVI,** S/o Sri. K.B. Mallikarjuna, aged about 43 years, residing at No.414, Ward No.15, Shree Rama Puram, K M Basappa Road, Birur, Chickmagalur-577116, has intends enter in to sale agreement to purchase the below mentioned "Schedule property" and intends to get sale deed from its owners i.e. **SRI. PREMANAND S PRABHU** S/o Late. Sri. Sheshagiri Prabhu, **MRS. YAMINI P PRABHU** W/o Late. Sri. Prashanth P Prabhu, **MRS. PRATHIKSHA P PRABHU** D/o Late. Sri. Prashanth P Prabhu, **MR. PRAMOD P PRABHU** S/o Sri. Premanand P Prabhu, **MRS. SANGEETHA P PRABHU** W/o Sri. Pramod Premanand Prabhu, **MR. HARSHITH P PRABHU** S/o Sri. Pramod Premanand Prabhu, **MRS. VEENA MOHAN PRABHU** D/o Sri. Premanand S Prabhu, **MRS. PRATHIBHA PREMANAND PRABHU @ PRATHIBHA SUJAYA KAMAT** D/o Sri. Premanand S Prabhu, **MR. PRAKASH P PRABHU** S/o Sri. Premanand S Prabhu, **MRS. MAMATA. P** W/o Sri. Prakash P Prabhu and **MR. SAMITH P PRABHU** S/o Sri. Prakash P Prabhu, all are Residing at No.706, 63rd Cross Road, 5th Block, Rajajinagar, Bengaluru-560010.
Any person/s, entity, firms, societies claiming to have any right, title, interest, benefit, claim or demand in, or to the schedule property and or any part thereof, by way of sale, exchange, gift, lease, tenancy, license, assignment, mortgage, charge, lien, encumbrance, inheritance, bequest, easement, possession, maintenance, order/ decree/ judgment of any court, agreement or otherwise however to the schedule property shall file his/her/its/their objections/claims with true copies of documentary proof in support thereof, to the under signed, at the address given below within **15 days** from the date of publication of this notice, failing which, my client will proceed with the sale transaction.
SCHEDULE PROPERTY
All that piece and parcel of the immovable property bearing **MUNICIPAL NO.3, PID NO.21-88-3,** (formerly Site No.3, formed by the Bengaluru Development Authority, in Industrial Town, Rajajinagar) presently Property **No.3/3, New E Khatha PID No.1194639334,** situated at 1st Main Road, Industrial Town, BBMP Old Ward No.21, New Ward No.106, Dr. Rajakumar Ward, BBMP Bangalore and bounded on:
EAST BY : Road,
WEST BY : Site No.58,
NORTH BY : Vacant Land H.T.C.
SOUTH BY : Site No.4.
MEASURING:
EAST TO WEST : 128-00 Feet (419.45 Square Meters)
NORTH TO SOUTH : 45-00 Feet, (147.64 Square Meters)
In all measuring **5,760-00 Square Feet, (535.12 Square Meters)** together with 40 years old RCC Building comprising of Ground and First Floor with bricks wall, window and doors made with steel and tiles flooring with all civic amenities.
(K.B. NAVEEN KUMAR)
Advocate
No. 46/1, 2nd Floor, 4th Cross, Brundavan Hotel Complex, Sampige Road, Malleshwaram, Bengaluru - 560 003.
M : 9591378500, 080-40944648

केनरा बैंक Canara Bank
(A Government Of India Undertaking)
Head Office: Bangalore
ARM-1 Branch,
2nd Floor, No.86, Spencer Tower, M.G. Road,
Bangalore-560001. Ph: 080-25310066
E-mail: cb2366@canarabank.com

SALE NOTICE

E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES UNDER THE SECURITISATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT, 2002 READ WITH PROVISO TO RULE 8 (6) OF THE SECURITY INTEREST (ENFORCEMENT) RULES, 2002

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged to the Secured Creditor, the Physical Possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of **ARM-1 Branch, Bengaluru of the Canara Bank, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is"** on **28.07.2025 (10.00AM to 10.30AM),** for recovery of **Rs.3,86,77,798.34 as on 07.07.2025** with further interest and cost thereon due to the **ARM-1 Branch, Bengaluru of Canara Bank** from **(1) M/s Tidewater shipping Private Limited,** Cunningham Classic, No.104, 22, Cunningham Road, Bangaluru-560052. **(2) Sri Subhash Menon** S/o Sri Gopal Menon, Flat No.1, CR II Floor, Regency Place No.7, Richmond Road, Bangalore 560002. **(3) Smt. Sunithi s Menon** W/o Sri Subhash Menon, **(4) Sri Aditya Menon** S/o Sri Subash Menon, **Both are residing at:** Flat No.1, C2 II Floor, Regency Place No.7, Richmond Road, Bangalore-560002.
The Earnest Money shall be Deposited by way of **E-Wallet of M/s PSB Alliance Private Limited (https://baanknet.com/)** portal directly or by generating the Challan therein to deposit the EMD through **RTGS/NEFT** in the account details as mentioned in the said challan on or before **25.07.2025 - 5.00pm**

(Rs. in lakhs)

Lot No	Description of the immovable/movable assets:	Reserve Price	EMD Amount	Incremental value at Bid
1	Residential property situated at Flat no. 104, Municipal No. 22/5 PID No.78/62/22/5 On The First Floor of Building Known as " Cunningham Classic" Constructed on Property No. 22 (Old No.25), Ward No.78, Sampangi Ramaswamy Temple, Street Cunninghum Road, Bangalore. With super Built up area 578.65 Sq.ft, East By : Private Property, West By: Cunninghum Road, North By: Cunningham Crescent, South By: Private Property. **Owner of the Property : Sri Subhash Menon & Smt. Sunithi Menon. Coordinates of the property, Latitude- 12.983639 Longitude- 77.598278**	₹. 98.11	₹.9.81	1.00

Known encumbrances, if any: Not to the knowledge of the Bank.
For detailed terms and conditions of the sale please refer the link "E-Auction" provided in Canara Bank's website (www.canarabank.com) or E-Wallet of M/s PSB Alliance Private Limited (https://baanknet.com/) portal and may contact ARM-1 Branch, Bengaluru, Canara Bank, Ph. No.08025310066, 9439058121, 9966397756 and 9039609346 during office hours on any working day.

Date : 08.07.2025
Place: Bangalore
Sd/- Authorised Officer
Canara Bank

Published by Nirmala Lakshman at No 19&21, Bhagwan Mahaveer Road, Bengaluru-560001 and Printed by C. Sridhar at Plot No. 13-D, Bommasandra-Jigani Link Road, KIADB Industrial Area, Bommasandra, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru-560099 on behalf of THG PUBLISHING PVT LTD., Chennai-600002. Editor: Suresh Nambath (Responsible for selection of news under the PRP Act).
ISSN 0971 - 751X

Two defence industrial corridors sought for State

Siddaramaiah meets Rajnath Singh, seeks help for organising air show during Mysuru Dasara

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Wednesday called on Defence Minister Rajnath Singh in the national capital and appealed to him to extend support for establishing two defence industrial corridors, one each in north Karnataka and south Karnataka regions, and grant defence land for executing infrastructure projects in Bengaluru.

Karnataka is home to 67% of all aircraft and helicopter manufacturing for defence services and 25% of India's aircraft and spacecraft industry.

In a memorandum submitted to Mr. Singh, the Chief Minister said the proposed corridors would leverage the existing ecosystem and infrastructure, further cementing Karnataka's reputation as the defence capital of India. In 2018, the Centre announced the defence industrial corridors in Uttar Pradesh and Tamil Nadu to strengthen indigenous production and reduce imports.

Mr. Siddaramaiah also urged the Defence Minister to allow the participation of the Indian Air Force in the form of an aerial display by Surya Kiran, Sarang, and other aerobatic teams during the Mysuru Dasara celebrations.

The spirit of the festival strengthens public appreciation for the armed forces, he said. The armed forces conducted air shows in Mysuru during Dasara in 2017, 2019, and 2023.

In another petition to Mr. Singh, the Chief Minister sought the transfer of defence land for the development of infrastructure projects in the city.

The State sought the transfer of 6.837 acres of defence land for the construction of the link road from Ballari Road to Sarovara Layout, situated behind the erstwhile Hebbal Defence Dairy Farm. This project is essential for providing direct access to Sarovara Layout. As per the Revised Master Plan 2015, an 18-metre-wide road has been proposed to improve connectivity and urban infrastructure.

For metro viaduct

For the construction of a metro viaduct and flyover of the double-decker structure of Phase-3 of the Namma Metro project, the government sought defence land near Goraguntepalya, and an extent of 0.34 acres and 7.02 acres of air force land. The Phase-3 metro project consists of two corridors of 44.65 km in length.

The Chief Minister was accompanied by his deputy D.K. Shivakumar and Industries Minister M.B. Patil.

With demands: Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, accompanied by Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar and Industries Minister M.B. Patil, meeting Defence Minister Rajnath Singh in New Delhi on Wednesday.

Land for tunnel road

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

During his meeting with Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Wednesday sought defence land for implementing the Bengaluru Urban Vehicular Twin Tunnel Project.

He sought 2.039 acres of defence land, previously part of the erstwhile Hebbal Defence Dairy Farm, for the project.

The tunnel road project would be taken up from Hebbal (Esteem Mall junction) on Ballari Road to Central Silk Board, providing a high-speed alternative for airport-bound and intercity commuters.

State seeks over ₹12,000 crore to complete six irrigation projects

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Karnataka has sought financial assistance of over ₹12,000 crore to complete six irrigation projects, including 25% financial assistance for the Yettinahole project, in the State, Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar, who also holds the Major and Medium Irrigation portfolio, said on Wednesday.

A note from the Water Resources Department said, the State has sought ₹804.66 crore for the Sonthi lift irrigation project, ₹2,666.7 crore for the Upper Krishna Project's Indi branch canal, ₹3,000 crore for the Malaprabha canal third stage, ₹3,000 crore for the Ghataprabha right bank canal, ₹1,444.42 crore for the Chikkodi branch canal project, and ₹1,610 crore for flood mitigation and management at Bennehalla.

> We have appealed to the Centre to consider Yettinahole as a drinking water project and provide 25% financial assistance.
>
> **D.K. SHIVAKUMAR,** Deputy Chief Minister

"Of the six, we have information that one has been approved. However, we have not been officially informed about it," the Deputy Chief Minister told presspersons in Delhi.

When asked about the Upper Bhadra project, he said, "The Centre had sought revised estimates, which have been submitted. Based on that, we have sought more than ₹5,300 crore, which had been sought before. So far, we have spent ₹10,604 crore on the project. The Centre has told us that the money would be released, but we are not sure until the money is credited."

Regarding approval for the Mekedatu drinking water project, the Deputy Chief Minister said the State has urged the Centre to give an appraiser's report and approve the detailed project report. "We have urged the Centre to provide a report to the court... The Jal Shakti Minister has promised to speak to the Tamil Nadu government."

On the Yettinahole project, Mr. Shivakumar said, "We have appealed to the Centre to consider it as a drinking water project and provide a financial assistance of 25%."

The work in Tumakuru and Hassan had been stopped, and farmers on whose land the project work is being undertaken have been compensated, he said.

"However, the Forest Department claimed the land to be theirs. Hence, alternative land has been given, and the Forest Department, which had to provide the clearance certificate, has not yet given it," Mr. Shivakumar said

CM, Dy. CM likely to meet Rahul today

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Deputy Chief Minister and KPCC president D.K. Shivakumar are expected to hold talks with Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi on Thursday in New Delhi to discuss various political developments in the State, including filling the four vacancies in the Legislative Council, Cabinet reshuffle, and appointment of new State Congress chief. The two leaders were unable to meet Mr. Gandhi on Wednesday as the latter was in Patna to lead a *mahagathbandhan* (grand alliance) march to the Election Commission's office there to protest the ongoing special intensive revision (SIR) of electoral rolls ahead of the Bihar Assembly elections.

Mr. Siddaramaiah told reporters that he would meet Mr. Gandhi on Thursday if he was given an appointment to discuss political developments and other issues in the State. AICC general secretary in-charge of Karnataka Randeep Singh Surjewala, who was in Bengaluru for three days for a one-on-one meeting with Congress legislators, too would be present in Delhi on Thursday, the Chief Minister said.

Council nominations

Meanwhile, replying to a question on nominations for the four Council seats, Mr. Shivakumar said the process would be completed before the Assembly session and added that one seat would be for a mediaperson.

Asked about the language row in Maharashtra, he said, "It is an internal matter of that State... Here, we give priority to Kannada and English." On the tunnel project in Bengaluru, Mr. Shivakumar said, "A global tender will be called in a couple of days. This project can't be done without a toll. Airport road and NICE road in the city too have tolls."

KDA panel to look into why many fail in Kannada in SSLC

The Hindu Bureau
HUBBALLI

Terming the inability of students, particularly those from government schools, to clear the Secondary School Leaving Certificate (SSLC) Kannada examination as "disastrous", chairman of the Kannada Development Authority (KDA) Purushottam Bilimale has said that the a sub-committee comprising Kannada scholars and primary school teachers will be formed to look into the issue and come up with solutions.

Addressing a press conference after holding a review meeting on the implementation of Kannada in governance, in Dharwad on Wednesday, Mr. Bilimale said, "In Dharwad district alone, around 750 students have failed in the Kannada examination, and what is more disastrous is that many of them are from government schools."

Mr. Bilimale said the sub-committee would look into the issues of Kannada teaching and learning methods and what needs to be done to address the issue. "The sub-committee will be asked to submit its recommendations within three months. Subsequently, the authority will take it up with the Education Department."

Two-language policy

On the two-language policy, which is much debated now, he said, "I will definitely advocate it. However, considering the existing political scenario where national parties are in power in States like Maharashtra and Karnataka, the implementation of the dual language policy will be a difficult task."

He argued that the high command of national parties would not endorse the State governments when it comes to the two-language policy, and would invariably want Hindi to be taught. "However, in States like Tamil Nadu, where a regional party is in power, the two-language policy is easier to implement. But for Karnataka to go ahead with it will be very difficult," he said.

On SEP

On the State Education Policy (SEP), he said that based on his talks with those in the committee, he was sure that the two-language policy would be recommended by the committee under the SEP. "However, the question is whether the State government will endorse it," he said.

Mr. Bilimale clarified that they were not opposed to teaching Hindi as a language. "Our objection is to the fact that more than a tool of communication, Hindi is being used as a tool of power. Hindi is being imposed as part of the political agenda, and to counter it, we need to assert Kannada. Otherwise, regional languages will be bulldozed," he said.

Gokak memorial

On the role played by the Dharwad region in shaping the 'Gokak Chalavali' (Gokak movement) for giving prominence to Kannada in Karnataka, he said that although Dharwad's role was well established in the movement, there was nothing in the region to highlight and emphasise the same.

"So, we are recommending the government to set up a memorial at Gabbur Cross in Hubballi (considered the gateway to north Karnataka region)," he said.

High Court imposes fine of ₹2 lakh on Hassan district caste and income verification panel for acting illegally

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The High Court of Karnataka has imposed a cost of ₹2 lakh on the chairman and members of the Hassan district caste verification committee for making a candidate selected for a government job run from pillar to post for a year for validation of her caste and income certificates, refusing to validate them, contrary to the law, and approving them only when court intervened.

"It is a case where the members of the committee must be mulcted with exemplary cost. The chairman and the members who have deliberately ignored the law, as a result of which the petitioner is driven to unnecessary litigation and a consequential loss of 12 months of her employment, shall bear

the costs," the court observed.

Justice M. Nagaprasanna passed the order while allowing a petition filed by Muthulakshmi B.N. of Channarayapatna in Hassan district.

The petitioner was selected for the post of Assistant Public Prosecutor under Category 3A in January 2023, and she was asked to upload images of all her original certificates on a government portal in May 2023 for verification before issuance of the appointment order.

However, the committee, headed by the then Deputy Commissioner of Hassan district, refused to validate her income certificate on obtaining a report from the verification officer who had said that the income of her husband exceeds the limit.

As per law

Following this, the petitioner moved from pillar to post, approaching various State authorities, pointing out that the income certificate is based on her father's income and not that of the husband as per law, which was a settled principle by the courts. She finally knocked the doors of the High Court in March 2024, challenging the action of the committee.

When the court in April 2024 questioned the conduct of the committee for failing to consider the income of father as per the law laid down by the apex court, the committee issued validity certificate with a remark that the "validity certificate is issued only based on the court's direction even though income of her husband exceeds the limit".

While terming the committee's remarks as "not only ignorance of law as settled by the apex court but also an act of contumacious contempt", the court said that the "committee's unlawful act made the petitioner to languish in anxious limbo for 12 months when other selected candidates to the post joined the service" way back in June 2024.

The court ordered a cost of ₹2 lakh to the petitioner by the then chairman and members of the committee from their personal fund.

State delegation engages with over 120 firms in U.S.

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A delegation from State has successfully conducted a 10-day U.S. road show across Boston, New York, and San Francisco by holding senior leaders' meetings and events while engaging with more than 120 companies – from MNCs to start-ups. The road show is expected to garner an investment of around ₹5,500 crore in the form of talent hiring, infrastructure spend, research and development, and collaborative initiatives, generating employment of more than 7,200, Minister for IT Priyank Kharge told reporters here on Wednesday.

The delegation included Sharath Bache Gowda, KEONICS chairman, and Ekroop Caur, Secretary, Department of Electronics, IT and Biotechnology.

Karnataka Public Works Department
Office of the Engineer-in-Chief, PRAMC, PWD, Bengaluru-560001
No.: EIC/PWD/05/PRAMC/2025-26 Date: 08.07.2025
SHORT TERM TENDER
The Executive Engineer, PRAMC, KPWD invites Short Term Tender for Two Road Safety works in Mysore District. Further details can be obtained from Karnataka KPPP Portal (https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in) from **09.07.2025, 5:30 PM** onwards.
Sd/- Executive Engineer, PRAMC, KPWD, Bengaluru
DIPR/CP/LC/1713/2025-26

Office of the Additional Director General of Police, Directorate Of Civil Rights Enforcement,
No.1, Technical Education Board, 1st Floor, Palace Road, Bengaluru-560001. Phone No. 080: 22268723, 22260827
E-mail: dcrebangalore@gmail.com, digpcre@ksp.gov.in, aodcrehq@ksp.gov.in
Tender No.KSP/2025-26/OW/WORK-INDENT13 Date: 08.07.2025
Tender Notification (Through e-procurment Portal)
Additional Director General of police, Directorate of Civil Rights Enforcement, Bengaluru has invited a tender for supply Furniture for the DCRE unit through e-procurement portal estimated value 45.00 lakhs. The last date and time for tender submission is **09.07.2025 to15.07.2025.** Further details can be obtained by visiting e-procuremet portal **https://kppp/karnataka.gov.in.** for more information, please contact the above office
Sd/- Administrative Officer(1/c) DCRE, Bengaluru.
DIPR/CP/1720/SSC/2025-26

ವಿಜಯನಗರ ಶ್ರೀಕೃಷ್ಣದೇವರಾಯ ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯ,
ಬಳ್ಳಾರಿ.ಜ್ಞಾನಸಾಗರ ಆವರಣ, ವಿನಾಯಕನಗರ, ಕಂಟೋನ್ಮೆಂಟ್,ಬಳ್ಳಾರಿ.
ಕುಲಸಚಿವರು 08392–242703,08392242097
Ref.VSKUB/ACA/Ph.D/Paper Notification/2025-26/621 Date:07.07.2025
NOTIFICATION
Ph.D PROGRAMME FOR THE YEAR 2024-25
Applications are invited from the eligible and interested candidates for admission to Ph.D.Programme in Vijayanagara Sri Krishnadevaraya University, Ballari for the academic year 2024-25. The application and the detailed notification are available on the University website. The hard copy of the duly filled-in application along with fee paid receipt shall be submitted to the respective heads of the department. For further details, the candidates are advised to visit www.vskub.ac.in.
Sd/- Registrar, Vijayanagara Sri Krishnadevaraya University Ballari.
DIPR/Ballari/254/KSMCA/2025-26

OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE
DEATH
T K SRINIVASAN (89), Retired EDP Officer, The Hindu, Chennai passed away on 09-July-2025. Address : 12, Mudhakaram Flats, Lakshmi Nagar Third Main Road, Nanganallur, Chennai - 600061. Contact: 9840971535

IN MEMORY OF YOUR LOVED ONES
To dedicate a space in this section, Please contact:
Bengaluru: 98455 29981, 080 - 22071826
Hubballi: 0836 - 2338600
Mangaluru: 0824 - 2417575, from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Rate for Karnataka:
Minimum: Rs. 320/- for 2 lines.
Extra line: Rs. 160/-
B/W Display: Rs. 95/- per sq.cm;
Colour Display: Rs. 105/- per sq.cm
For Placing Advertisements Online log on to www.thehinduads.com
DONATE EYES GIFT SIGHT

DEATH
HEARTFELT CONDOLENCES

SRI.M.BHAGAVANTHA RAO
25-05-1954 – 09-07-2025
(Retd.MD, State Bank of Hyderabad)
With profound grief, We deeply mourn the passing away of Sri.M.Bhagavantha Rao, Our beloved President, an exemplary leader, our guiding light, able administrator and above all a great human being.
Directors & Staff
SMSO Permanent Nidhi Ltd.,
No.37 Car Street, Triplicane, Chennai 600 005
Email : smso1881@gmail.com

PUBLIC NOTICE
Under the instructions of my client SRI. PARASHURAMAN, S/o Late.Sri.Raman, Aged Major, Residing at No.1366, 3rd 4th Main, Prakashnagar, Srirampuram, Bengaluru-560021. I am cause this public notice to general in public. My client had lost the original sale deed dated 13/07/2007, registered document No.MDL-1- 00877/2007-08 and the original sale deed dated 27/10/2018, registered document No.MDL-1-03659/2018-19, in respect of the Northern portion Site No. 12, Katha No.248, Assessment No.11/4, situated at Madanayakanahalli, Dasanapura Hobli, Bengaluru North Taluk, on 01/07/2025 while traveling in auto at Bengaluru. For the same my client has lodged a police complainant. It is hereby giving notice to general in public. If any one finds the above said original documents, it is hereby requested to contact or hand over the said. documents to my client or to me. If anyone do any transaction by keeping the above said documents, that transaction is considered as illegal and my client is not responsible for the same.
A. GURU PRASAD, Advocate, No.116/5-1, II Floor, Near Union Bank of India, 11th Cross, Malleshwaram, Bengaluru-560003
Mobile No.9743008222
6360475176

Following row, film renamed *Janaki V. vs State of Kerala*

The Hindu Bureau
KOCHI

The CBFC said it would issue the censor certificate within three days of submission of the revised version of the film.

Production company Cosmos Entertainment has agreed to change the name of the character "Janaki" in a film to "Janaki V." in adherence to a suggestion by the Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC). The film will thus be renamed *Janaki V. vs State of Kerala*.

The firm has also agreed to the recommendation to either mute the reference to the name "Janaki" or choose an alternative name at two instances in the film.

The CBFC has said it will issue the censor certificate within three days of the producer firm submitting the film in its revised form.

The CBFC has informed the Kerala High Court that it is opposed to the character by name "Janaki" (which is another name for goddess Sita) being shown as a rape survivor who is aggressively cross-examined by a lawyer from another religion, who poses many humiliating questions to her. It cited this among the reasons for not issuing censor certificate for *JSK - Janaki vs State of Kerala*.

The Board's affidavit says the petition filed by the film production company fails to appreciate that films are evaluated in their entirety, rather than in isolation.

It also fails to understand that the right to freedom of speech and expression under Article 19 of the Constitution is not absolute, and is subject to reasonable restrictions.

The certification process, therefore, represents a careful balance between creative freedom and regulatory oversight.

The title and the lead character of the film have a religious connotation and will have a tendency to cause public disorder, since they are named after goddess Janaki (Sita), who holds profound religious significance in the Ramayana.

Justifying the CBFC's demand for the change of name, the Board's counsel has contended that the character Janaki in the film was depicted as a rape survivor.

Moreover, permitting such films for public exhibition would set a dangerous precedent and open a Pandora's box for future productions. This would undermine religious sentiments across communities and pose a serious threat to public order.

The Bench of Justice N. Nagaresh has posted the case for hearing on July 16.

National strike turns into a total shutdown in Kerala

Private and public stage carriages and long-distance bus services come to a halt, inconveniencing passengers; police give additional security for the functioning of Union government institutions

The Hindu Bureau
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

Path ahead: Workers march in solidarity in Kochi during the national strike jointly organised by trade unions on Wednesday. THULASI KAKKAT

The 24-hour national strike called by public and private sector workers' unions in protest against the "anti-labour" policies of the Union government assumed the proportions of a bandh in Kerala on Wednesday.

The strike was called by the Joint Platform of Trade Unions, which comprises 10 central trade unions along with independent all-India sectoral federations and associations.

Private and public stage carriages and long-distance bus services came to a halt, inconveniencing hundreds of passengers, including families with minor children, who alighted at railway stations and airports in the State.

Joint Strike Committee activists prevented the Kerala State Road Transport Corporation (KSRTC) from operating even skeleton services. They also blocked inter-State bus services and freight movement, resulting in altercation with the police in many places. Autorickshaws and taxis remained off the road, limiting the public's ability to contract ride-hailing services. The lack of public transportation and the unavailability of staff prompted universities to postpone examinations. Attendance was poor at public offices, despite the government declaring *dies non* (a day of non-attendance).

Hundreds of unionised bank employees walked off their jobs for the day, disrupting banking operations and commerce.

Hotels remain closed

The majority of hotels and restaurants remained closed, with employees failing to report for duty, primarily due to a lack of transportation. Online food ordering and delivery were disrupted, with most restaurants remaining offline.

The Secretariat here was almost devoid of employees, except senior Secretaries. Ministers did not appear at their offices in support of the strike.

The strike supporters exempted hospitals, milk distribution, medical stores, clinics and other essential services from the protest. However, a lack of transport impeded hundreds of outpatients from keeping their medical appointments. The tourism sector ground to a halt due to a lack of staff and allied services. However, trade unions exempted the hospitality industry from the strike.

Deserted markets

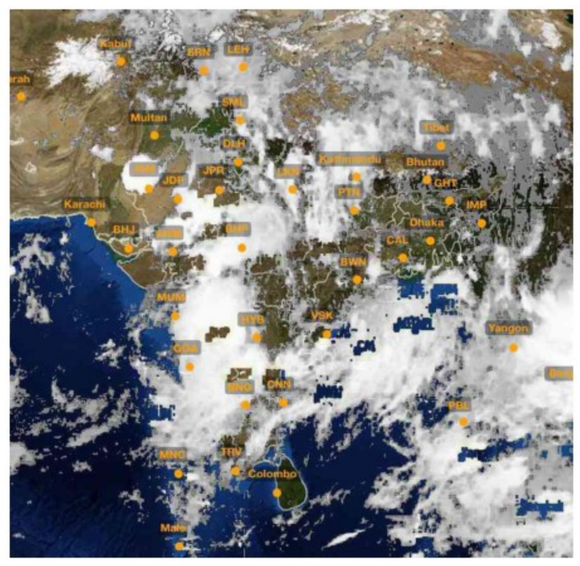
Commerce came to a halt in major business centres. Scores of lorries ferrying provisions and vegetables from other regions remained parked unattended. Rural employment guarantee scheme beneficiaries supported the strike called by central trade unions, except the BJP-allied Bharatiya Mazdoor Sangh union. Municipal workers and farmers' organisations joined the strike.

The State police gave additional security cover to Union government institutions and escorted buses ferrying employees of the Indian Space Research Organisation and the Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre.

Labour Minister V. Sivankutty told presspersons that the strike was an existential fight to preserve hard-won workers' rights. The workers were protesting against the contractualisation and casualisation of the workforce, which was increasingly resulting in summary dismissals, extensive lay-offs, workplace exploitation, and the privatisation of public services and public sector units. Trade unions took out marches in support of the strike across Kerala.

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 18.00 HRS)

Forecast for Thursday: Heavy/very heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over Gujarat, Jammu & Kashmir, Ladakh, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Delhi, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram, Tripura, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, central Maharashtra, Vidarbha, Konkan & Goa, Karnataka, Kerala and Mahe

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	37	25.5	24.8	Kozhikode	23	32.0	24.5
Ahmedabad	3	33.7	26.4	Kurnool	5	34.3	25.2
Aizawl	66.7	24.6	18.9	Lucknow	6	32.0	28.0
Allahabad	18	32.2	25.0	Madurai	—	41.0	26.1
Bengaluru	—	30.0	20.2	Mangaluru	24	30.0	24.0
Bhopal	—	31.0	23.0	Mumbai	1	30.0	27.2
Bhubaneswar	—	31.4	25.9	Mysuru	10	30.0	21.0
Chandigarh	—	34.3	27.1	New Delhi	—	35.6	26.4
Chennai	18	38.4	25.8	Patna	—	33.9	28.2
Coimbatore	—	33.5	22.8	Port Blair	20	31.0	24.2
Dehradun	0.4	30.2	24.9	Puducherry	—	38.1	28.2
Gangtok	12	20.6	18.2	Pune	0.2	30.7	24.6
Goa	4	32.0	26.4	Raipur	61	25.5	23.2
Guwahati	0.1	33.1	26.5	Ranchi	10	25.8	23.0
Hubballi	—	28.0	22.0	Shillong	5	22.6	17.5
Hyderabad	0.4	31.8	23.4	Shimla	—	25.2	20.8
Imphal	15.2	24.3	21.7	Srinagar	7	22.7	19.8
Jaipur	—	35.0	27.5	Thiruvananthapuram	—	32.6	25.6
Kochi	13	30.6	24.4	Tiruchi	—	38.5	27.6
Kohima	4	24.0	18.9	Vijayawada	—	37.1	26.6
Kolkata	16	28.3	25.4	Visakhapatnam	—	35.5	27.2

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	.19	.52	.30	122	84	
Bengaluru	.15	.16	.32	36	129	
Chennai	.11	.16	.64	50	65	
Delhi	.7	.49	179	27	58	
Hyderabad	.5	.8	.24	108	90	
Kolkata	.3	.54	.38	50	48	
Lucknow	.76	.12	.12	86	15	
Mumbai	.29	.56	.32	65	75	
Pune	.12	.26	.59	69	72	
Visakhapatnam	.42	.82	.38	60	114	

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Nandesari, Gujarat recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 270 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Aizawl, Mizoram recorded a healthy AQI score of 9

Air Quality Code: Poor Moderate Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

Four dead and 28 admitted to hospital in Telangana after consuming adulterated toddy

Lavpreet Kaur
HYDERABAD

The emergency ward of NIMS in Hyderabad where people have been admitted after consuming adulterated toddy. RAMAKRISHNA G.

Four persons died and at least 28, including 12 women, have been admitted to hospitals in Hyderabad after they consumed adulterated toddy at Kukatpally on Tuesday night, officials said.

One of them is said to be in a critical condition.

While 27 are undergoing treatment at the Nizam's Institute of Medical Sciences (NIMS), one has been admitted to Ramdevrao Hospital in Kukatpally.

Three patients are being treated in the acute critical care unit.

"We received reports from hospitals about patients being admitted with symptoms such as low blood sugar, dizziness and diarrhoea. Upon further checks, we traced the cases back to toddy shops in Kukatpally," District Excise Officer, Medchal, Shaik Fayazuddeen said.

"A preliminary inquiry indicated that these people, most of them daily wage workers living in areas such as Hydernagar and Indiranagar, had consumed adulterated toddy from a few shops at Kukatpally," he said.

Among the patients is a 78-year-old man, reportedly in critical condition due to age-related complications.

"He had consumed toddy from one of the three outlets on July 6. His condition worsened due to high blood sugar levels and other health issues. He is currently on ventilator support," he said.

Later in the day, Excise officials carried out door-to-door surveys to identify more individuals exhibiting similar symptoms and ensured their admission to the NIMS.

Officials from the Prohibition and Excise Department have sealed three toddy outlets in Hydernagar, Shamshiguda and KPHB Colony.

Toddy sold at these shops is suspected to have been laced with alprazolam and diazepam.

"Samples have been sent for laboratory analysis, while the remaining stock of about 674 litres was destroyed. The licences of the shop owners have been suspended," Mr. Fayazuddeen said.

The accused persons have been detained by the Balanagar Excise officials for questioning.

Further investigation is underway to identify other depots selling adulterated toddy.

Meanwhile, excise personnel have been deployed at key hospitals in Kukatpally to monitor incoming patients for similar symptoms and facilitate timely referrals.

Prohibition and Excise Minister Jupally Krishna Rao, on Wednesday, met the victims at NIMS. He said a case had already been registered and those responsible would be punished.

Woman who died in quarantine tests negative for Nipah

The Hindu Bureau
MALAPPURAM

Health officials in Malappuram district of Kerala heaved a sigh of relief on Wednesday when a 78-year-old woman from Parappanangadi who had been under treatment in quarantine after contact with a Nipah patient and later passed away tested negative for the virus posthumously.

Her funeral had been put on hold awaiting the test results.

Health Minister Veena George said that 498 people in the State were on the Nipah contact list. She said prevention activities should continue until September as per the Nipah calendar.

When 203 people are under observation in Malappuram, 116 are under observation in Kozhikode, 177 in Palakkad, and two in Ernakulam.

Eleven of them are under treatment in Malappuram, with two in intensive care units.

As many as 46 persons on the contact list in Malappuram have tested negative for Nipah so far. In Palakkad, three persons are being treated in isolation and five tests have been negative so far.

The Minister said that 29 persons in the State were in highest-risk category and 116 in high-risk category.

The Nipah-infected woman is under treatment in Kozhikode.

Four held in two incidents of 'moral policing'

The Hindu Bureau
SHIVAMOGGA/MANGALURU

Four persons were arrested on the charges of being involved in moral policing in two incidents in Karnataka.

The Sagar Rural police arrested three persons when they allegedly assaulted a 19-year-old girl and her colleague, who were on their way to their workplace on a motorcycle on Monday.

According to the complaint registered by the police, the girl, a native of Sorab taluk, was on her way to work in Sagar with her colleague on a bike, when a group of six persons stopped them. The accused reportedly questioned the girl why she was going with a person belonging to another religion, following which, they allegedly assaulted both of them.

Based on the complaint filed by the duo, the police arrested three of the accused, while the remaining are absconding.

In the second incident, in Dakshina Kannada, the Vitla police arrested Padmaraj, 27, a resident of Enmakaje in Manjeshwar of Kerala, on Tuesday on charges of harassing a minor boy for speaking to his classmate, a minor girl belonging to a different religion. In his complaint, the boy's brother stated that the minors were talking at a bus stand on Tuesday evening when Padmaraj objected to the boy talking to a Hindu girl and threatened to kill him if he continued to do so.

The police said Padmaraj was produced before a court which ordered for his release on bail.

Kerala HC quashes KEAM 2025 exam results

The Hindu Bureau
KOCHI

The Kerala High Court on Wednesday quashed the results of the Kerala Engineering Architecture Medical (KEAM) 2025 entrance examinations.

Justice D.K. Singh directed the Commissioner for Entrance Examinations to publish the rank list as per the prospectus issued in February. It noted that the revised method in KEAM 2025 to calculate the ranks adversely affected students who studied CBSE or ICSE syllabus. The court termed this "an illegal move."

Kodagu coffee growers aim to go global, eye Australian market

The Hindu Bureau
MYSURU

In a bid to promote shade-grown coffee cultivated in Kodagu and tap new international market, about 120 growers introduced Arabica and Robusta variety to an Australian delegation, in Madikeri on Tuesday.

The 120 growers have established Biota Coorg Farmers Producer Company, and in their ongoing efforts to find global market, hosted a 'Coffee Cup Tasting and Interaction' event to Deputy Consul General of Australia in Bengaluru General Steven Connelly, and others.

The office-bearers and members of the company presented the taste of their shade-grown Robusta and Arabica coffee, cultivated in their plantations, to the visiting dignitaries, that also included Steffi Cherian, Public Diplomacy Officer, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Australian Consulate-General, Bengaluru.

K.K. Vishwanath, CEO, said although Australia has been a coffee-consuming nation for long, it has traditionally imported coffee from other markets.

"Now, they are being introduced directly to Kodagu's unique shade-grown coffee through the Deputy Consul General based in Bengaluru," he said. This is an attempt to open new market opportunities for Kodagu coffee by establishing connections with Australian coffee businesses, said Mr. Vishwanath. The host company appealed to the Australian delegation to act as a bridge by facilitating contacts with coffee traders in Australia.

The local growers also proposed the idea of enabling virtual 'cup tasting' sessions, in which they would send coffee samples beforehand and requested assistance in creating a system to promote and market 'Kodagu Coffee' in Australia.

Efforts on to save Nimisha from death row: negotiator in Yemen

The Hindu Bureau
KOCHI

Efforts are on to save Nimisha Priya from Kerala who has been sentenced to death in Yemen, according to a key negotiator in the case.

"I am still hopeful that the execution of Nimisha Priya, who is on death row at a prison in Yemen's capital Sanaa for the alleged murder of a Yemeni national, could be halted though there is little time left," Samuel Jerome Bhaskaran, a member of the Save Nimisha Priya International Council, has said.

"Two days ago I received a message from the chairman of the central prison in Sanaa that Nimisha's execution has been scheduled for July 16," Mr. Bhaskaran told *The Hindu* from Yemen on Wednesday. "I informed the Indian Embassy in Riyadh about the date of her execution. They contacted the Indian mission staff in Sanaa, who confirmed it," he said.

Nimisha Priya

Mr. Bhaskaran, an aviation consultant based in Yemen since 1999, has been coordinating the efforts to save Nimisha Priya. Premakumari, mother of Nimisha, who reached Sanaa on April 23, 2024 to seek pardon for her daughter, has been staying with him since then.

Nimisha Priya has been imprisoned in Sanaa's central jail since 2017, convicted of murdering Talal Abdo Mahdi, her business partner.

Mr. Bhaskaran said the execution order will not have come without the authorities seeking the view of the victim's family.

Building resilience

The Rio declaration underlined the cohesion within BRICS

The 17th Summit of BRICS emerging economies, which ended on Monday, came at a time when the organisation was in the global spotlight. This was the first such meeting that included all the newly inducted members (Egypt, Ethiopia, the UAE, Iran and Indonesia; Saudi Arabia has not joined so far). It also followed the U.S.-Israel attacks on Iran's nuclear programme, and the escalation in Israel's bombardment of Gaza. This was the first summit since the four-day India-Pakistan conflict in May. and also after the G-7 summit in Canada. The BRICS grouping, seen as the next challenger to the global financial order, is in U.S. President Donald Trump's cross-hairs, as he sees it mounting an alternative to the dollar in international trade. In addition, the group has several internal rivalries that have brought its sustainability into question. In April, the BRICS Foreign Ministers' meeting ended without a joint statement, as the African members held up the wording on the expansion of the UN Security Council. Meanwhile, despite India's clarification in March that it is not considering de-dollarisation of trade in any form, and that there is no "unified BRICS position" on the issue, Brazil's President Lula da Silva doubled down on rhetoric against the U.S., saying that BRICS proves the world "doesn't need an emperor". Mr. Trump has since repeated threats that BRICS countries would face an extra 10% tariffs due to the grouping's "anti-American stance" – an awkward moment for New Delhi as it attempts to conclude a trade agreement with Washington.

Despite all the challenges, the Rio declaration underlined the basic cohesion and consensus within BRICS members on a range of issues. In the joint statement, there was strong language against the attacks on Gaza and condemnation of the strikes on Iran, given the risks to nuclear safety. India was able to ensure a paragraph with tough language condemning the Pahalgam terror attack and references to terror financing and "cross-border movement of terrorists". India and Brazil won endorsements of the whole grouping on playing a larger role at the UN, "including the Security Council". The absence of the Chinese and Russian Presidents allowed more space for the non-P5 countries to promote a common vision for the Global South, adding several important resolutions on energy security, climate change and re-ordering the WTO. The Rio declaration also took a stern view of the U.S.'s moves on tariffs. As India prepares for its leadership of the BRICS grouping next year, that now represents about half the global population, around 40% of the global GDP and a quarter of global trade, it can move forward with this consensus, fulfilling the vision for the grouping's acronym that Mr. Modi recast as "Building Resilience and Innovation for Cooperation and Sustainability".

Death by negligence

The Railways must ensure interlocked gates at all manned level crossings

Tragedy struck without warning recently when a van carrying children on their daily school commute collided with a train on the tracks. Three schoolchildren were killed on Tuesday when the Villupuram-Mayiladuthurai Passenger train, hurtling at 95 kmph, rammed into their school van at a manned railway gate at Semmankuppam in Tamil Nadu's Cuddalore district, dragging it for 50 metres. Despite conflicting claims about how the gate at the non-interlocked level crossing remained open as the train approached, preliminary evidence points to human error. Southern Railway has suspended the gatekeeper – now arrested for criminal negligence – alleging that he yielded to pressure from the van driver and opened the gate in violation of established protocols. However, accounts from a surviving student and eyewitnesses contradict this version. The survivor has stated that the gate was already wide open and the sound of the oncoming train was not heard. There are also claims that the gatekeeper had fallen asleep. Yet, some reports suggest that just minutes before the collision, he had exchanged the secret private number with the station master, indicating the train's approach to Alappakkam – a detail that may not go unverified in the inquiry. Even if this is true, this would only show partial adherence to protocol. He failed in the essential duty of keeping the gate closed until the train had passed – as clearly laid out in the Indian Railways Permanent Way Manual.

At the heart of this accident is the continued use of non-interlocked manned level crossings. Unlike interlocked gates – where train signals turn green only when gates are securely locked – non-interlocked systems rely solely on the alertness and judgment of the gatekeeper. As of October last year, 11,053 manned level crossing gates in India are interlocked. In the Southern Railway zone, over 300 gates remain non-interlocked. Railway unions have long flagged the pressure gatekeepers face from impatient motorists. The only foolproof solution to prevent such fatal incidents is the construction of road overbridges or underpasses. However, these projects are often delayed due to administrative hurdles and land acquisition issues. In this case, Southern Railway has accused the Cuddalore Collector of not having cleared a railway-funded underpass for over a year – a serious charge that demands scrutiny. Until permanent solutions are in place, the Indian Railways must urgently prioritise the conversion of non-interlocked crossings to interlocked ones. Human lives depend on it.

Israel has failed to solve the Persian puzzle

Stanly Johny

The wedding of Edmure Tully and Roslin Frey at The Twins in the northern riverlands is one of the most consequential events in Game of Thrones. Known as the Red Wedding, it is the setting for the massacre of Robb Stark, King in the North and Lord of Winterfell, along with his pregnant wife, his mother, and most of his banner-men. This brutal betrayal shattered the Starks' military power and ended their bid for independence from the Iron Throne, reshaping the political landscape of Westeros, the fictional continent in the series. When Israeli fighter jets began bombing Iran, in the early hours of June 13, 2025, Israeli generals reportedly dubbed a part of the operation as the 'Red Wedding' – a pointed reference to what they wanted to achieve in the strike.

Israel's primary target was Iran's nuclear facilities. But Israel knew that if it started a war, Iran – a country many times its size and armed with thousands of ballistic missiles – would strike back. So there were three targets – Iran's nuclear facilities, nuclear scientists and the leadership of Iran's armed forces. Much like House Frey slaughtered the banner-men and the leaders of House Stark, Israel had the aim of wiping out Iran's military command, believing that it would cripple Tehran's military response. Israel had pulled off a similar strategy in the past. On June 5, 1967, it launched a massive air strike against Egypt's air force, causing much damage to it on the ground. Egypt never recovered from the initial blow, and Israel claimed a sweeping victory over Egypt, Jordan and Syria in just six days. But in June 2025, the outcome was different.

Operational success

From an operational standpoint, Israel's attack can be seen as a success. Israel had been preparing for a strike on Iran's nuclear programmes for years, a plan that gained momentum after the October 7, 2023 attack by Hamas. Israel, which immediately launched a war against Hamas in Gaza, eventually expanded it to a mini-regional war that was aimed squarely at Iran. It dealt a blow to Hezbollah. It bombed the Iranian embassy in Damascus in April 2024, and killed several Iranian commanders in Syria. Its relentless bombings in Syria expedited the collapse of Bashar al-Assad's regime. The return of Donald Trump to the White House further hardened Israel's resolve to test the military option.

On June 13, while Tehran was still engaged in talks with the Trump administration, Israel struck Iran's Natanz and Isfahan nuclear facilities, killed at least 10 nuclear scientists, and assassinated many top commanders. Executing such a complex operation in a vast country about 2,000 kilometres away was no small feat. Yet, the problem for Israel was that this operational success failed to deliver the desired strategic outcome. For Israel, which has established credible deterrence against the surrounding conventional Arab armies, Iran has always remained a puzzle. Despite its sanctions-hit economy and enduring hostility from the West, Iran managed to build a wide network of influence in the region through non-state actors, while developing an advanced ballistic missile programme and pursuing its nuclear ambitions.

> The 12-day conflict has not destroyed Iran's nuclear capabilities; this is a war that is far from over

Israel had long nurtured the idea of regime change in Iran – if the Islamic Republic falls, Israel's last remaining conventional threat in West Asia would vanish. Israel prefers a weaker, broken-up Iran, much like today's Iraq, Libya, Syria or Lebanon, which would set the stage for a unipolar West Asia that is dominated by Israel and the U.S. The post-October 7 wars substantially weakened Iran's allies in the region. Still, Iran, with its ballistic missiles and nuclear programme, remained a rebel counterweight to Israel.

In the early days of the 12-day war, Mr. Netanyahu declared that Israel's operation "could certainly" lead to regime change, insisting that "Iran is very weak". He also urged the Iranians to "to act, to rise up" against the "evil regime". During the war, Israel killed at least 30 Iranian security chiefs, threatening to disrupt the entire chain of command. But the Iranian government and the military recovered with remarkable speed, with the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps taking the lead in mounting a counter-attack. Iran launched a sustained campaign of drones and ballistic missile strikes that exposed vulnerabilities in Israel's much-vaunted, multi-layered, American-assisted defence systems. Within days, Mr. Netanyahu was forced to turn to Washington for help.

That help came on June 21 when U.S. President Donald Trump ordered U.S. air strikes on three Iranian nuclear sites, including Fordow, the most heavily fortified facility. Mr. Trump, however, was not interested in a long war with Iran. After the strikes, he claimed that Iran's nuclear facilities had been "obliterated", declared victory and announced a ceasefire between Israel and Iran. Mr. Netanyahu had no choice but to accept the ceasefire, with the Iranian government still standing with much of its capabilities.

Strategic labyrinth

Early assessments by the U.S. intelligence community claimed that Iran's nuclear programme had not been destroyed by U.S. strikes, but set back by "a few months". Even if the nuclear facilities were destroyed, there is no certainty that Iran's stockpile of highly enriched uranium and all advanced centrifuges have been destroyed. There were reports, based on European intelligence assessments, that Iran had dispersed its enriched uranium well before the Israeli-American strikes. According to Rafael Mariano Grossi, head of the International Atomic Energy Agency, Iran has the industrial and technological capacity to resume enriching uranium in a few months.

This leaves Israel in a strategic labyrinth. The Iranian state refused to flinch throughout the war despite the heavy blows it suffered. The air strikes failed to destroy Iran's nuclear programme, let alone its nuclear capabilities. Third, the war exposed Israel's over-reliance on the U.S., in both defence and offence, which was not the case in 1967 when Israel claimed its biggest victory.

Survival of the weak

Even though Mr. Trump joined the war on behalf of Israel, there is a clear distinction between the American and the Israeli approaches towards the Persian puzzle. Israel's ultimate objective is regime change but it does not have the resources or the capabilities to achieve regime change. The U.S. does not want a nuclear Iran, but it does not want to get entangled in another prolonged war in West Asia either. Mr. Trump's own MAGA (Make America Great Again) base was revolting against America's intervention in Iran.

For Iran, the Israeli-American attack was another Mosaddegh moment – a reminder of the 1953 Central Intelligence Agency-backed coup that toppled its elected Prime Minister Mohammad Mossadegh. Iran once made a deal with the U.S. and other world powers over its nuclear programme, only to see it torn up by President Trump in his first term. When Tehran returned to talks with Washington again, it ended up facing an Israeli-American war instead. Iran is now racing to rebuild its military capabilities and restore deterrence. Iran's leaders will also find a greater incentive than ever to pursue a nuclear weapon as many in Iran today argue that if Tehran had possessed a bomb, like North Korea, Israel and the U.S. would not have dared launch this war.

In Game of Thrones, the Red Wedding was not the end of House Stark. When Arya Stark, the younger sister of Robb Stark, extracts revenge for the Red Wedding by orchestrating a massacre at House Frey, she declares: "You didn't slaughter every one of the Starks. That was your mistake. You should have ripped them all out, root and stem." The 12-day war did not destroy the Iranian regime. Nor did it tear out the Iranian nuclear programme, root and stem. Beneath its rhetoric of victory, Israel, which is now asking the international community to stop Iran from getting a nuclear bomb, knows this all too well. It will only grow more paranoid, closely monitoring Iran's every move, while Tehran replenishes its arsenal, readying itself to fight another day. This war is far from over.

stanly.johny@thehindu.co.in

End custodial brutality, begin criminal justice reform

Apsara Reddy

is official spokesperson, All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (AIADMK)

In the dark corners of police stations in Tamil Nadu, justice often dies before it is delivered. The recent custodial death of Ajith Kumar, a 27-year-old temple guard in Sivaganga, should shake the conscience of every citizen. But, tragically, his case is not an exception. It is part of a grim pattern.

Between 2021 and 2025, there have been a series of custodial deaths. Vignesh, a 25-year-old, who was detained in Chennai in 2022, died within hours, with his autopsy revealing multiple injuries. In 2024, Raja, a Dalit cook from Villupuram died in police custody after a petty theft allegation; his three children and wife still await compensation. A 30-year-old autorickshaw driver in Tiruchi died of injuries in 2023 under suspicious circumstances. And now, Ajith, whose autopsy revealed 44 wounds, cigarette burns, and forced exposure to narcotics. His last words to his mother were haunting: "I didn't steal."

A normalisation of the use of force

These are not aberrations. They are the outcomes of a system that has normalised force over fairness. But beyond the moral horror lies another fundamental concern – we are failing citizens and the police force by investing in enforcement without investing in reform.

Each year, the Tamil Nadu government allocates thousands of crores towards policing. Yet how much of this goes into welfare, training and psychological care? A disproportionate amount is funnelled into hardware such as vehicles, surveillance systems, and crowd-control gear while the human element is left neglected. We equip officers with lathis and law books, but deny them the emotional tools to deal with stress, trauma and moral ambiguity. Policing cannot merely be about control. It must be about conscience.

> India is failing its citizens and its police force by investing in enforcement without investing in reform

Reforms to undertake

A sensible reallocation of the policing budget is long overdue. Even 5% of the current annual spend, redirected toward setting up district-level mental health units, mandatory quarterly counselling, and refresher sensitisation courses, would result in exponentially better outcomes – for detainees, for officers, and for public trust. We pour money into deterrence, but ignore the cost of dysfunction.

It is time to institutionalise mental wellness within law enforcement, not as a luxury, but as a necessity. Officers are human. They deal with domestic abuse cases in the morning, gang violence by afternoon, and politically fraught complaints by night. Without psychological support, that pressure metastasises; burnout becomes brutality. The baton does not punish alone, it often expresses accumulated trauma.

Parallelly, police training needs transformation. A curriculum designed in the pre-liberalisation era cannot address the needs of modern India. Ethics, human rights jurisprudence, trauma-informed investigation methods and community policing models should be at the core, and not cosmetic.

Moreover, our criminal justice architecture must include enforceable accountability. It is not enough to suspend a few constables after every tragedy.

What Tamil Nadu, and India at large, needs is legislative clarity; a comprehensive anti-custodial violence law with time-bound investigation mechanisms, mandatory video documentation of interrogations, and civil society involvement in oversight.

Technology must serve as a safeguard, and not be a silent spectator. CCTV cameras in areas where people are in custody should be operational, tamper-proof, and subject to real-time audits. Digital systems can help, but only if we are willing to confront the uncomfortable truths that they reveal.

A new path for law enforcement

Finally, we must reimagine the police uniform – not as a symbol of unyielding authority, but of service, restraint, and human responsibility. Ajith Kumar's death, like those of Vignesh, Raja, and so many others, tells us that power without empathy is violence by another name.

To break this cycle, we must invest not just in policing but also in the emotional, ethical, and structural reform of law enforcement. Until then, every custodial death will not just mark the end of one life but also the failure of the state's moral contract with its people.

Let us not wait for the next young man to cry out "I didn't steal" before dying in silence. The time for justice is not post-mortem; it is policy, and it is now.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Level crossing accident

The tragedy at a railway level crossing near Cuddalore in Tamil Nadu is symbolic of the Indian way of defying rules and regulations. I am now in the United States and in a neighbourhood that is very close to a railway track. I find no gatekeeper and no barrier rods but only a traffic signal-like warning. Yet, citizens dutifully stop their vehicles and wait for the green signal before proceeding. People here are aware that one stands no chance before a mighty railway engine.

Some time ago, I had an opportunity to interact with the loco pilot of the Deccan Queen train, from Pune to Mumbai. He was cruising well over 90 kmph and on reaching Ambernath slowed down, well aware that this was the point in the journey where pedestrians begin crossing the railway tracks. Hence, a reduction in speed was essential.

For loco pilots of the Rajdhani express, Vande Bharat, and of course the futuristic bullet train, they will remain in fear of irresponsible and daredevil 'track crossers'.

Subramaniam Sankaran,
San Carlos Pl, Fremont, CA, U.S.

While conflicting versions are being circulated about the accident, serious questions arise. How many more non-interlocked railway crossings across the country are there? Why does it take a tragedy for safety improvements? The upgradation of non-interlocked crossings to automated systems and strict enforcement of safety protocols in railways must be ensured.

R. Sivakumar,
Chennai

When the Indian Railways is spending crores of rupees in adding more trains to generate revenue, why is it counting its pennies when it comes to safety measures?

Murali Mohan P.V.,
Chennai

Self nomination

It is shocking that we have a set of world leaders who keep hailing one another as 'great and mighty' and suitable recipients for the Peace Nobel. Giving the coveted prize to a person who has not done even the bare minimum to stop a painful war would be most terrible.

Layona Maria,
Varappuzha, Kerala

Grass court calendar

In Wimbledon, with different winners in eight years in the women's field, unpredictability has become the norm. This diversity highlights the depth of the women's game but also suggests a gap in surface-specific mastery. The grass season remains too short for players to develop meaningful consistency. Administrators must consider an expanded grass-court calendar to reward adaptation and produce champions who can dominate, not just survive.

Nagarajamani M.V.,
Hyderabad

'Qualifying date'

In the article, "The ECI does not have unfettered powers" (Opinion page, July 9), there appears to be an incorrect detail — that the 'qualifying date' can be only January 1. Section 14 of the Representation of the People Act, 1950, referred to in the article, was amended in the year 2021. As in the amendment, with effect from 2022, the 'qualifying date' means 'the 1st of' January, April, July or October of the year in which the electoral roll is prepared or revised.

Rangarajan R.,
Chennai

Letters emailed to letters@thehindu.co.in must carry the postal address and the full name.

The end of humanity

Jean Drèze

Development economist based in Ranchi

A recent poll conducted in 24 countries by the Pew Research Center reveals that Israel is very unpopular in most of these countries. The main exception is India, where just 29% of the respondents had an "unfavourable" view of Israel. A slightly higher proportion (34%) had a favourable view, and the rest had no view.

Perhaps this was a biased sample, where privileged sections of the population are over-represented. But the popular sentiment may or may not be more critical of Israel among the underprivileged, because they are not necessarily well informed on this issue. Clearly, there is some passivity in the response of the Indian public to the horrific war crimes that are taking place in Gaza.

India's support of Israel

For nearly two years now, the people of Gaza have been mercilessly displaced, bombed, starved, and deprived of medical care. More than 50,000 people – mainly civilians – have been killed, and many more grievously wounded. Countless children have been shot, dismembered, burnt alive or buried under the rubble. Some of them had to be amputated without anaesthetics. More than 200 journalists and a thousand health workers have been killed. Schools, hospitals, mosques, and universities have been razed to the ground. Today, the entire population of Gaza is on the verge of famine. All this was deliberate, planned, announced, and livestreamed.

Against this background, one would expect Israel to be very unpopular in India, as elsewhere. One reason why it is not (judging from the Pew Survey) may be that the Indian government has firmly sided with Israel in this conflict. The main reason is not far to seek: India depends heavily on Israel for military and surveillance technology. The two countries have deep commercial ties especially but not only in the defence sector. The Indian government has actively supported Israel's assault on Gaza in many ways: for instance, by subsidising joint ventures in the defence sector, sending Indian workers to Israel in replacement of Palestinian workers, casting an abstention vote in several United Nations resolutions critical of Israel, and – last but not least – suppressing public protests against Israel.

With the government and the corporate sector on Israel's side, the mainstream media know better than to take the other side. The public is kept in the dark. Social media could help, but Gaza gets lost in a torrent of attention-seeking trivia. Some social media algorithms, notably X's, are also likely to be biased against posts critical of Israel or supportive of Palestine. Many X accounts, for instance, have been suspended after exposing uncomfortable truths about Gaza.

Solidarity and selfishness

Meanwhile, the people of Gaza have been immensely inspiring examples of courage and solidarity. Hundreds of Palestinian journalists have risked their life, and often lost it, to report the events. Doctors and nurses continue to treat the wounded even as bombs rain down on them. Relief workers work around the clock to provide people with a semblance of shelter and food. Ordinary civilians are helping each other to pull people or bodies from under the rubble. Recently, a mother who had lost all her children risked her life to fetch food for other children.

It is another matter that the people of Gaza may start turning on each other soon, as famine intensifies. In the last stages of a famine, people stop being able to see beyond their own hunger. The same mother who risked her life to feed hungry children may start snatching food from them. For all we know, the real purpose of Israel's blockade may be to incite Palestinians against each other.

Solidarity with the people of Gaza is being defused even as their agony intensifies

There is a sharp contrast between the spirit of solidarity in Gaza and the selfish behaviour of the billionaires who recently took control of the United States, the world's richest and most powerful country. As soon as they came to power, these billionaires started redesigning public policies and institutions in their own interest, or rather in the interest of their class - the super-rich. This involved, first and foremost, eroding if not dismantling barriers to accumulate wealth: regulatory bodies, environmental safeguards, affirmative action, redistributive taxation, social security, political opposition, you name it. It also involved more imaginative projects such as taking over Greenland, raiding Ukraine's mineral resources, and converting the Gaza strip into a luxury resort.

It is not an accident that values of compassion and solidarity are found in Gaza, while the opposite values prevail at the other extreme of the spectrum of power. The race for power is not particularly kind to those who are distracted by the demands of empathy or morality. Nor is it surprising that greed and selfishness are celebrated in high places. Morality is like oxygen - the higher you get, the less there is of it in the atmosphere. It is this morality-free atmosphere that has made it possible for the governments of the U.S. and other countries to support the Gaza genocide.

Our own ability to feel, speak, or act for Gaza is being defused even as the Government of Israel scales ever-rising heights of brutality and cruelty. Most of the local journalists and other vocal witnesses in Gaza have been killed. The rest are too scared, hungry or exhausted to report what is happening there. In any case, communication facilities are minimal, and Gaza's agony is losing its "newsworthiness". Darkness and silence prevail as Gaza descends into hell. If we do not come to our senses, this will be the end of humanity.

Time to halt forceful acquisition of land

The Siddaramaiah government would do well to listen to the Devanahalli farmers

STATE OF PLAY

Clifton D' Rozario

For more than 1,100 days, farmers of 13 villages near Channarayapatna in Devanahalli taluk, Bengaluru Rural district, have been agitating against the "forceful" acquisition of their land by the Karnataka government for industrial development.

In 2022, the Basavaraj Bommai government notified 1,777 acres off land for a proposed hi-tech defence and aerospace park. This highly fertile region is the lifeline of Bengaluru's food and nutrition security.

The farmers immediately took to the streets, demanding that the plan be dropped. They rejected offers of compensation and promises to drop part of the acquisition. The farmers say they want to continue farming and remain on their land that have sustained lives and livelihoods for generations. Their persistent struggle has not only brought them into national focus, but has also foregrounded the legitimacy of forcible land acquisition.

Over the past month, this agitation has taken an intense turn. On June 25, a 'Devanahalli Chalo (let's go to Devanahalli)' programme was organised, and various farmer, trade union, Dalit, student, and women's organisations came together to show solidarity with the farmers. The use of police force in dispersing the protesters only intensified the agitation under the aegis of Samyukta Horata Karnataka. Facing intense pressure, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah called a meeting on July 4 and requested time to take a decision. He argued that there were legal hurdles in going back on land acquisition. This is an exercise in obfuscation since the power of the State government to withdraw from the land acquisition process is legally settled. Nevertheless, the farmers have heeded his request and are awaiting his decision.

Before elaborating on this, it is necessary to mention that forcible acquisition, premised on the principle of eminent domain, is a colonial relic and has no place in a democracy. It is for this reason that informed consent found a place in the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013. However, despite this enactment, there are many State expropriation laws that remain on the statute books. These are used indiscriminately to acquire people's lands. Despite several demands, the Karnataka government has shown no inclination in scrapping these laws.

The lands of the Devanahalli farmers have been acquired under one such law – the Karnataka Industrial Areas Development Act, 1966. To date, lakhs of acres of agricultural land have been acquired under this statute for establishing industrial areas and for allotting them to individual companies. There is overwhelming evidence that acres of acquired land are lying waste. The Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India on the economic sector for the year ending March 2017 confirmed this. The disastrous nature of forcible acquisition stands exposed, yet the State government is yet to undertake a comprehensive review of the status of all acquired lands.

The answer to the question of withdrawal from land acquisition proceedings can be found in the Karnataka Industrial Areas Development Act. Section 4 allows the State government to exclude acquired land at any time it deems necessary. This flows from the settled legal position that the State can exercise its power of withdrawal from land acquisition unilaterally. Indeed, with regard to acquisition under the 1966 Act, the Karnataka High Court, in *Thomas Patrao Since Deceased by his LR and Anr. vs. State of Karnataka*, 2005, held that the State government can cancel land acquisition notifications before taking possession by virtue of its power under Section 21 of the Karnataka General Clauses Act, 1899. The unambiguous position is that the State government can withdraw the Devanahalli land from acquisition by cancelling the preliminary and final land acquisition notifications.

Incidentally, this is a power that successive State governments have exercised. Acquisition of hundreds of acres of notified lands were withdrawn on various counts including farmers' resistance, so the Siddaramaiah government has no real reason to seek time. Instead, it must listen to the demand of the farmers and drop the land acquisition. Else, talk of democracy and social justice will remain hollow words.

Clifton D' Rozario is a practicing advocate in the Karnataka High Court and the General Secretary of the All India Lawyers Association for Justice

Delhi's refuelling ban: simple policy, but imprecise

Delhi's fuel-denial policy reflects urgency to act on air pollution, but rules alone won't deliver clean air

DATA POINT

Ajay S. Nagpure

On July 1, 2025, Delhi launched a policy: petrol vehicles older than 15 years and diesel vehicles older than 10 years were no longer allowed to refuel at city petrol stations. Over 500 petrol stations were fitted with Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) cameras to identify non-compliant vehicles in real time. But implementation ran into trouble. Many ANPR systems could not accurately read high-security plates. Fuel station staff lacked training, and there was no integrated blacklist to share vehicle status across agencies. Drivers refuelled in neighbouring towns just outside Delhi's limits, bypassing enforcement.

The policy uses vehicle age as a proxy for emissions – simple to apply, but imprecise. Without fitness checks, odometer data, or emissions testing, age alone poorly reflects real-world pollution. Media reports have suggested that up to six million vehicles in Delhi might fall under the ban, but no official, disaggregated data exists. We don't know how many are still on the road, what fuel they use, or how far they travel.

To independently assess the policy's potential, we analysed vehicle registration records from the VAHAN portal for 2002 to 2025, covering all of Delhi's Regional Transport Offices. We cross-referenced this with resale platform listings to estimate how many older vehicles are still active. Travel survey data helped model typical daily distances by vehicle age. For pollution estimates, we used emission factors for particulate matter (PM2.5) from the Automotive Research Association of India, adjusted for Bharat Stage norms.

Our findings show that only 8% of Delhi's current vehicle fleet (about 7.5 lakh vehicles) are covered by the fuel restriction **(Chart 1)**. This includes around 1.7 lakh two-wheelers, 3.5 lakh petrol cars, 1.8 lakh diesel cars, and 34,000 diesel commercial vehicles. Total PM2.5 emissions from Delhi's transport sector in 2025 – including both tailpipe and non-tailpipe sources – are estimated at 3,200 tonnes. If fully enforced, the policy could reduce this by approximately 8% of total in boundary and transboundary vehicle movement emissions **(Chart 2)**.

The projected impact is meaningful, but depends on sustained implementation. For a more sustainable solution, Delhi can learn from how other cities have tackled this challenge. Beijing paired diesel truck restrictions with scrappage incentives and retrofitting options. Tokyo enforced strict diesel standards while subsidising upgrades. Paris phased in low emission zones alongside public transit improvements and financial support for low-income users.

Delhi can also develop localised solutions. Vehicle exchange fairs, scrappage incentives, and legal interstate resale options could help owners retire older vehicles without hardship. Replacing the one-time lifetime road tax with annual conditional renewals would better align financial incentives with clean-air goals.

Public engagement is critical. A phased 12-18 month rollout with awareness campaigns would reduce confusion and build trust. A grievance portal could let citizens check compliance, contest errors, or seek exemptions.

Delhi should invest in scaling up environmentally sound scrappage centres and piloting retrofits like EV or hybrid kits. For small businesses, access to credit or vehicle replacement grants will be essential to avoid hardship.

Clean air doesn't stop at city borders. Vehicles move across Delhi, Noida, Faridabad, Gurugram, and Ghaziabad. A joint enforcement task force and emissions tracking platform would help standardise efforts across the region.

Past their prime?

The data is sourced from Google Mobility Insights and VAHAN portal

Chart 1: Distribution of on-road vehicles in Delhi by vehicle types and age groups in 2025. Our findings show that only 8% of Delhi's current vehicle fleet — about 7.5 lakh vehicles — are covered by the fuel restriction

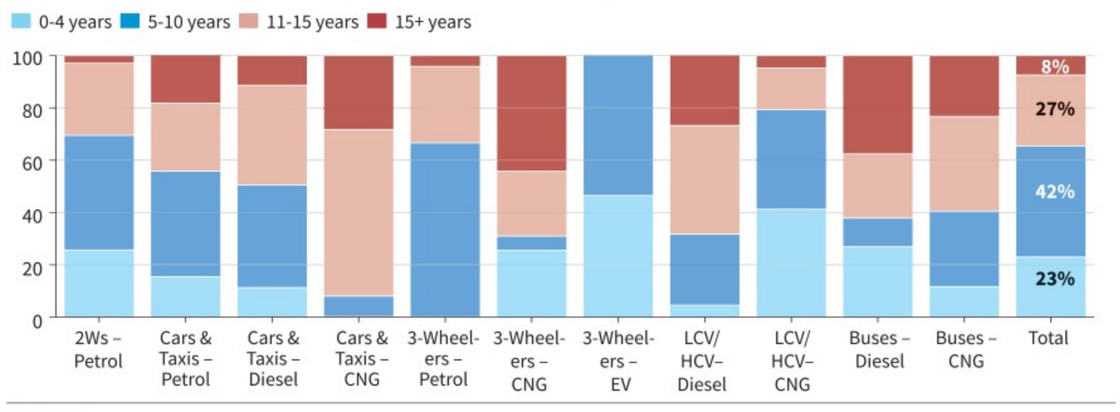
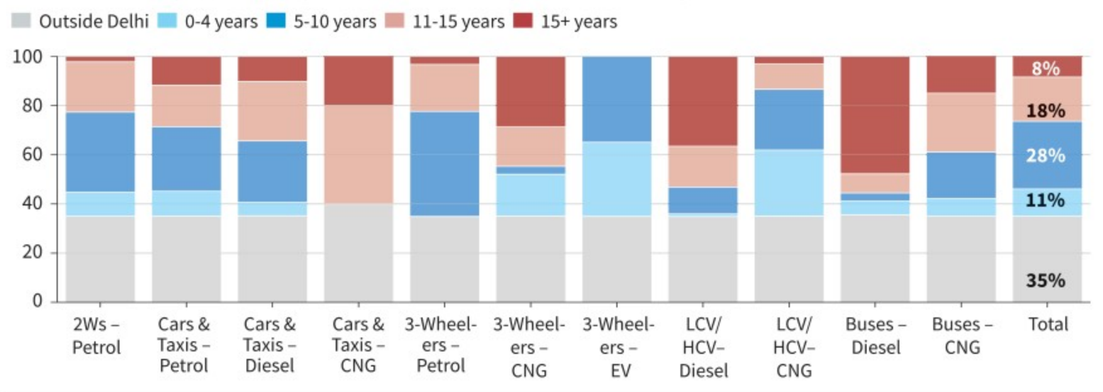


Chart 2: Estimated PM2.5 emissions in Delhi from different vehicle types and age groups in 2025. If fully enforced, the policy could reduce this by approximately 8% of total in boundary and transboundary vehicle movement emissions



Ajay S. Nagpure is urban systems scientist at the Urban Nexus Lab at Princeton University

FROM THE ARCHIVES

The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO JULY 10, 1975

Special IT squads to study posh houses

New Delhi, July 9: Special income tax squads have been appointed in the four metropolitan towns of Delhi, Bombay, Calcutta and Madras to check unaccounted money invested in luxury houses. The special squads have been appointed in accordance with the Prime Minister's 20-point economic programme. The special squads will consist of a number of units depending upon the area to be covered in each metropolitan town. To begin with these squads will function in more posh and conspicuous localities where there has been a spurt in the recent past in the construction of luxury houses. The special squads will collect information about the land, its sale price, the plinth area, the number of stories constructed and other details. This will be followed by spot inspection by income-tax officers and executive engineers who will immediately report the variations in the estimated value of the property and the actual value of the property given by the owners. Where the properties are either not disclosed or where the difference in valuation is 15 per cent of the squad valuation or Rs. 25,000, whichever is more, action will be initiated for realisation of income-tax or wealth tax as the case may be, along with arrears and penalties. Each inspection squad and the income-tax authorities concerned have been asked to submit fortnightly reports of the action taken. The appointment of the special squads is in addition to the action initiated by income-tax authorities to discover tax evasion through under-valuation of properties for purposes of sale.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO JULY 10, 1925

Madras Suburban Railways

Trichinopoly, July 10: Mr. G.C. Sim, Financial Commissioner of Railways, arrived here from Ooty yesterday. He discussed with the Agent the question of the electrification of the Madras Suburban Railway. The Agent had recently submitted an estimate for about 125 lakhs for the said purpose, soliciting the Railway Board's sanction. This is being discussed at length. It is also understood that the informal discussion included the introduction of steam power, with additional lines to facilitate suburban traffic. The Financial Commissioner also discussed the construction of minor lines through the agency of the S.I. Railway.

From Page One

12 killed as key bridge collapses in Vadodara

The victims include two siblings, officials said.

A multi-agency rescue operation involving fire brigade teams, local volunteers, and National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) personnel continued at the collapse site late into Wednesday evening, officials said. Gujarat Health Minister Rushikesh Patel said the bridge was constructed in 1985, and its maintenance was carried out periodically as and when required. "The exact reason for the incident will be probed," he said.

District Collector Anil Dhameliya said at least six vehicles – two trucks, two vans, an autorickshaw, and a two-wheeler – plunged into the river. In a stroke of luck, two vehicles teetering on the edge of the collapsed bridge were pulled back to safety by rescue teams. Additionally, three persons travelling on a two-wheeler survived after managing to swim ashore, the Collector said.

President Droupadi Murmu expressed deep condolences to the bereaved families. She prayed for the quick recovery of those injured.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced an ex-gratia of ₹2 lakh for the families of the deceased, and ₹50,000 for each injured person. Gujarat Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel announced ₹4 lakh and ₹50,000, respectively.

Probe ordered

Mr. Patel directed technical experts to reach the site and conduct a probe into the reason for the collapse. "I have ordered the Roads and Buildings Department to conduct an immediate investigation into the accident," the Chief Minister said.

The Opposition parties condemned the State government over the incident. Former CM Shankersinh Vaghela launched a scathing attack, claiming "this tragedy is the price of BJP's 30-year misrule". Congress leaders Amit Chavda and Manish Doshi demanded a high-level judicial probe.

No decision on updating NPR along with Census

The NPR is the first step towards the creation of a National Register of Citizens (NRC), according to the Citizenship Rules, 2003 under the Citizenship Act, 1955. The NPR was first created in 2010 and data was collected simultaneously during the first phase – called the House Listing and Housing (HLO) schedule – of the 2011 Census. The NPR database was then updated in 2015-16.

The NPR database has household-wise details of the country's 119 crore usual residents. Unlike Census data, which is only shared in an aggregate format, specific individual and household data from the NPR can be shared with Central and State governments and agencies.

Enumerators for the 2027 Census will begin training for the exercise in the last week of July, a government official said. This will be the first Census in which enumerators use mobile apps to collect data. The pre-test exercise to check the efficacy of the entire process will be held in the last week of August and the first week of September.

Pre-test questionnaires

This is the first Census since 2011 as the Census scheduled to take place in 2021 was delayed due to the COVID-19 pandemic and will now be completed in 2027. The pre-test exercise for the planned 2021 Census took place in 2019, covering more than 26 lakh people in all States. It included questions on household amenities from the first phase, and questions from the second Population Enumeration phase, as well as questions for the NPR database.

The NPR questionnaire for the 2019 pre-test included questions on the date and place of birth of the resident's father and mother, last place of residence, mother tongue, Aadhaar (optional), voter ID, mobile phone number, and driving license number.

Two pilots killed in third Jaguar jet crash this year

IAF orders probe; trainer aircraft faced technical malfunctions, forcing pilots to crash the plane in a field in Rajasthan, say officials; IAF is world's only Air Force still operating twin-engine Jaguars

Saurabh Trivedi
NEW DELHI

Two Indian Air Force (IAF) pilots were killed on Wednesday when their Jaguar trainer aircraft crashed into a field near Churu in Rajasthan.

A court of inquiry has been set up to investigate the cause of the accident, the IAF said. This is the third crash involving an IAF Jaguar fighter jet this year.

"An IAF Jaguar Trainer aircraft met with an accident during a routine training mission and crashed near Churu in Rajasthan, today. Both pilots sustained fatal injuries in the accident. No damage to any civil property has been reported," the IAF said in a post on X.

"The IAF deeply regrets the loss of lives and stands firmly with the bereaved families in this time of grief. A court of inquiry has been constituted to ascertain the cause of the accident," it added.

According to defence officials, the twin-seater aircraft was on a routine training sortie when the pilots experienced a technical malfunction. In an effort to prevent damage to the airfield and surrounding populated areas, Squadron Leader Lokendra and Flight Lieutenant Rishi crashed the aircraft, and died of their injuries, officials said.

The jet crashed in an agricultural field in Bhanoda village at 1.25 p.m., officials said.

Shortly afterwards, local people rushed to the site and found the burning debris. The bodies of both pilots were then recovered from the accident site. Police teams, fire brigades, and ambulances were rushed in to the spot, and the area has been cordoned off.

Series of accidents: Smoke billows out from the debris of the IAF's Jaguar fighter jet that crashed near Churu, Rajasthan. PTI

This is not the first accident involving a Jaguar aircraft this year. In March, a Jaguar fighter jet on a routine sortie crashed at Ambala in Haryana after encountering a system malfunction. The pilot manoeuvred the aircraft away from any habitation on ground before ejecting safely. In April, one pilot was killed when another Jaguar fighter jet on a routine sortie crashed near Jamnagar.

1970s aircraft

The Jaguars, developed by an Anglo-French company, were inducted into the IAF in the late 1970s.

The IAF currently operates six squadrons of Jaguars, and is the world's only Air Force that continues to operate the twin-engine Jaguar IS/IB/IM variants.

Rajasthan Governor Haribhau Bagade and Chief Minister Bhajanlal Sharma expressed grief over the incident. "The administration is in alert mode and instructions have been given to the officials for relief and rescue work," Mr. Sharma said.

6 members of radical Manipur outfit held for attack on police

The Hindu Bureau
IMPHAL

The six persons belonging to the outfit arrested by the Manipur Police on Wednesday.

Six members of the radical outfit Arambai Tenggol who were allegedly involved in assaulting an officer and other personnel of the Manipur Police, were arrested from four localities of two districts on Tuesday.

They attacked the police personnel during a shutdown in Bishnupur district on June 9, the police said.

Four of these six members were arrested in Imphal West district, and two in Bishnupur district. They were identified as Laishram Sanahal Singh, Laishram Rishikanta Singh, Laishram Premchand, Kangabam Nongdamba Singh, Sarangthem Rabichandra, and Yumnam Jaswant Singh.

Among the six arrested, the youngest member is 18 years old, while the oldest is 28.

4 extremists arrested

On Tuesday, the security forces also arrested four active members of the Kangleipak Communist Party (People's War Group), an outlawed extremist group.

The police said one of them, identified as 55-year-old Potshangbam Jeet Meetai alias Norjit, was involved in extortion and threatening people, brick field owners, and government employees. He was arrested from Imphal's Kekrupat area.

Thoudam Santosh Singh, 23, was arrested in Bishnupur district's Moirang Okshongbung. "He had collected a large amount of extortion money from schools and colleges in Thoubal district," a police spokesperson said.

The remaining two KCP (PWG) members - 34-year-old Laitonjam Ramakanta Meitei and 38-year-old Thongam Herojit Singh - were arrested from Bishnupur district's Utlou area.

They were raising funds for their banned outfit by extorting money from the general public and businessmen in Nambol area," the spokesperson said.

SC initiates *suo motu* case on ED summons to lawyers for advising their clients

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Three-judge Bench led by CJI to hear arguments on first working day after vacation - July 14

The Supreme Court has taken a *suo motu* case of the summons issued by the Directorate of Enforcement (ED) to senior advocates for their legal advice to clients.

The case is listed for hearing before a three-judge Bench of Chief Justice B.R. Gavai, Justices Vinod K. Chandran and N.V. Anjaria on July 14, the first working day after summer vacations.

'Chilling effect'

The top court's Bar associations had earlier written to Chief Justice Gavai on the 'chilling effect' the summons had on the independence of the legal profession, and eventually the entire justice administration process.

Senior advocates Arvind Datar and Pratap Venugopal had recently received ED summons for their professional advice to a client. The ED had later withdrawn the summons.

On June 25, the top court had deprecated investigating agencies for directly summoning lawyers in relation to professional advice or help provided to their clients, saying the practice would imperil the autonomy of the legal profession.

The court at the time was dealing with a petition of a Gujarat-based advocate who was summoned by the police after securing bail for his client in a loan dispute case. The High Court had stayed the summons. "This is not just about one lawyer. It is about protecting the legal system. Such summons are *prima facie* untenable," the court had noted.

"What is at stake is the efficacy of the administration of justice and the capacity of the lawyers to conscientiously, and more importantly, fearlessly discharge their professional duties...," a Bench headed by Justice K.V. Viswanathan had observed.

The court had further framed two questions to consider, including whether probe agencies could directly summon and question lawyers on the professional advice rendered to their clients.

Even if the role of an individual was more than that of a lawyer, the court had asked if agencies could issue summons or should there be some judicial oversight.

There is a quiet, visible crisis in higher education in India that runs deep: academic

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Deepak Nayyar

There is a quiet crisis in higher education in India that runs deep, distinguished academic and former Chief Economic Advisor Deepak Nayyar said here on Wednesday, delivering the 2025 B.G. Deshmukh Lecture on "The crisis of higher education in India: disturbing present and worrisome future".

Holding the Narendra Modi government responsible for the crisis in higher education sector, Professor Nayyar said the period since 2014 had witnessed a pronounced increase in political intrusion and government intervention in the universities, which had gathered further momentum since 2019. "There is a quiet crisis in higher education in India that runs deep. It is visible. The educational opportunities for school-leavers are simply not enough, and those that exist are not good enough. The pockets of excellence are outcomes of an enormous reservoir of talent and Darwinian selection processes. It does little for those with average abilities or without social opportunities," he said.

The challenges confronting higher education in India appear to need a massive expansion to educate much larger numbers, without diluting academic standards, Professor Nayyar said. "Indeed, it is just as important to raise average quality. What is more, in terms of access, it needs to be far more inclusive, and it needs some institutions, each with a certain critical mass that are exemplars of excellence at par with the best in the world. Such excellence, I am sad to say, is largely missing, while it is diminishing rapidly in the few pockets where it existed. Indeed, in terms of world university rankings, which have become the fashion in recent years, our performance is most disappointing," he said. "The past five years since 2019 have witnessed a rapid acceleration in this process. It has now reached a stage where the future of public universities in India is at a grave risk, if not already over the edge of the precipice," he said, adding that the decline of public universities had been an inevitable consequence.

'FATF comments on state financing of terror reinforce India's position on Pakistan'

T.C.A. Sharad Raghavan
NEW DELHI

The Financial Action Task Force, the international apex anti-terror financing watchdog, has included a separate section on state-sponsored terrorism in its report for the first time.

According to sources, the FATF's decision reinforces the position India has held since at least 2022, when it identified Pakistan as a source of terror financing.

"A variety of publicly available sources of information and delegations' inputs to this report indicate that certain terrorist organisations have been and continue to receive financial and other forms of support from several national governments," the FATF said in July 2025 Comprehensive Update on Terrorist Financing Risks.

The report stated that the possibility that governments may provide financial or other forms of support to terrorist organisations is a long-standing threat to "international peace and security, as well as to the stability of regional financial and political systems".

Several forms

"Delegations reported on this trend by referring to the use of state sponsorship for terrorist financing (TF) either as fundraising technique or as part of the financial management strategy of the certain organisations engaging in terrorist acts," the report said.

It added that this government support for terrorist activities has come in several forms, including direct financial support, logistical and material support, and the provision of training.

"Back in 2022, India had identified state-sponsored terrorism from Pakistan as a source of terrorist financing risk in its money laundering and terrorist financing risk assessment," a source explained.

"The finding of the report reinforces India's position. The FATF report also highlights the funding patterns of Pakistan-based LeT (Lashkar-e-Taiba) and JeM (Jaish-e-Mohammed)."

India played key role in bringing out FATF report on terrorist financing

Devesh K. Pandey
NEW DELHI

India was one of the key contributors to the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) project for putting together the "Comprehensive Update on Terrorist Financing Risks" report that was released on Tuesday.

It is learnt that the United Nations Security Council Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate and France were the co-leads for the project. India also played a significant role in bringing out the report, which has for the first time recognised state sponsorship as a means to fund and support terrorism.

"We have long identified Pakistan as a state that sponsors terrorism. India's

The FATF has for the first time recognised state sponsorship as a means to fund terrorism.

2022 National Risk Assessment (NRA) on Money Laundering and Terror Financing flagged state-sponsored terrorism – particularly from Pakistan – as a major concern. Accordingly, all financial institutions, including banks, are required to do enhanced due diligence with respect to any transaction related to Pakistan," said a government official.

The findings highlighted in the FATF report are expected to reflect in the framing of subsequent NRAs of all the other countries. The United States, in its 2024 National Terrorist Financing Risk Assessment, has already noted that it faced terrorism threats from terror groups in Pakistan, apart from Afghanistan, Southeast Asia, and East Africa.

"Being an NRA, it is followed by all U.S. banks while adhering to their KYC guidelines. They are cautious about transactions with Pakistan, and this increases the cost of doing business for Pakistani establishment and businesses. After this FATF Risk report – which carries higher precedence over NRAs – the U.S. and other countries will have to acknowledge the sources of state-sponsored terrorism in their risk assessments," the official said.

In the FATF report, the global money laundering and terror financing watchdog has considered the inputs received from delegations and publicly available sources of information.

"Among the various suspect modus operandi adopted for state sponsoring of terror outfits is the ongoing smuggling of oil from Iran to Pakistan. There is a high risk of funds so generated being used to finance terrorist activities," said another official.

Court extends Rana's judicial custody in 26/11 case

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) on Wednesday filed a supplementary chargesheet in the 26/11 Mumbai terror attack case in which the central agency has named Tahawwur Rana.

The supplementary chargesheet was filed in the court of Special Judge Chander Jit Singh of Patiala House Court. The judge extended the judicial custody of Rana, who was produced in the court through videoconference, till August 13. The court will also consider the chargesheet on the next date of hearing when the judicial custody of the terror accused is ending.

Over 25 cr. workers joined the strike, say central trade unions

Leaders of trade unions say key sectors such as power, mines, minerals, coal, ports, public transport were affected; the strike saw active participation from different sections of society; leaders say that this marks the beginning of a prolonged battle

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

March for rights: Left supporters staging a demonstration in Kolkata during the nationwide general strike on Wednesday. DEBASISH BHADURI

More than 25 crore workers participated in the nationwide general strike on Wednesday in protest against the policies of the Union government, particularly for scrapping the four Labour Codes, the platform of 10 central trade unions (CTUs) said. The leaders of the unions, addressing a workers' rally here, said key sectors such as power, mines, minerals, coal, ports and public transport were affected.

The CTUs said in a statement that there were very large mobilisation in rural India and at block-sub-division levels by informal sector workers, agricultural labourers and farmers and other sections of common people. "Participation of students and youth was quite visible in many States. The rank and file of the Samyukt Kisan Morcha [SKM] and joint front of agricultural labour unions played a significant role in the mobilisation in rural India," they added.

Stern warning

Senior trade union leader Amarjeet Kaur said the workers had given a stern warning to the Centre that any move to impose the four Labour Codes would be opposed. She said the strike was the beginning of more joint protests with farmers.

"We will soon have a joint meeting with the SKM to chart the future course of the protests," she said. The CTUs appreciated Opposition leaders who joined their cause in election-bound Bihar.

They added that it was a bandh-like situation in States such as Puducherry, Assam, Bihar, Jharkhand, Tamil Nadu, Punjab, Kerala, West Bengal, Odisha, Karnataka, Goa, Meghalaya, and Manipur. "Reports of partial bandhs were also received in many segments of Rajasthan, Haryana, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, etc. There was industrial and sectoral strike held in Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Gujarat," they said.

The unions said that people expressed themselves against the rising inequalities in the face of unprecedented price rise of essential commodities, rising unemployment and underemployment, leading to desperation, increased suicides of casual labour and the unemployed youth. "The government has not been conducting Indian Labour Conference for the last 10 years, violating international labour standards and continues to take decisions in contravention of the interests of labour force, including attempts to impose four Labour Codes to favour employers in the name of 'Ease of doing Business'," the CTUs said.

The leaders said the strike was the beginning of a prolonged battle in the days to follow in the sectoral levels focused on a determined united resistance, again to culminate into a bigger national-level heightened united action.

Electoral rolls revision an attempt to steal vote and future, says Rahul in Patna

Amarnath Tewary
PATNA

Rahul Gandhi with CPI(ML) Liberation general secretary Dipankar Bhattacharya, RJD leader Tejashwi Yadav and others. ANI

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi, accompanied by Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) leader Tejashwi Yadav and other allies of the INDIA bloc, led a protest march in Patna on Wednesday against the special intensive revision (SIR) of electoral rolls in Bihar, alleging that the exercise aimed at disenfranchising marginalised voters ahead of the Assembly election to be held later this year.

Holding a copy of the Constitution in hand while addressing protesters from atop a vehicle, Mr. Gandhi said, "SIR is not only an attempt to steal your vote but also of your future. But the youths of Bihar will not let it happen as the entire Opposition stands with you."

The gathering, largely comprising students and young supporters, responded with loud cheers.

He alleged that the Election Commission (EC) had lost its independence. "The Election Commissioner used to be above political parties but today they are being nominated by BJP and RSS," he said.

Mr. Yadav echoed the criticism, accusing the EC of functioning like an "arm of a political party". Referring obliquely to Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah, he said, "Will two people from Gujarat decide which Bihari voter can vote and which cannot?"

"The EC has lost its credibility. Preparations are under way to remove a large number of voters from the voter list. First, their names will be removed, then their pensions and their rations will also be eventually taken away," he said.

Leaders of the three Left parties and Vikassheel Insaan Party chief Mukesh Sahani also joined the protest. The Opposition leaders attempted to march to the State Election Commission office but were stopped by district officials near the Assembly.

Meanwhile, the Independent MP from Purnia, Rajesh Ranjan, alias Pappu Yadav, led parallel protests and attempted to disrupt train movement at the Secretariat Halt railway station. His supporters blocked road and rail traffic across several north Bihar districts, including Araria, Purnia, Katihar and Muzaffarpur. Protesters also disrupted movement at Bhojpur (Ara), Arwal, Darbhanga and Jehanabad, setting tyres ablaze on National Highway no. 30 in Patna district.

Reacting to the protests, senior BJP leader and Patna Sahib MP Ravi Shankar Prasad accused the Opposition of politicising a routine electoral process.

"In our country, citizens vote from where they live. So what is their problem if a revision of voter lists is done," he asked.

EROs empowered to decide voter inclusion in absence of documents: EC

Sreeparna Chakrabarty
NEW DELHI

As controversy rages over the documents considered valid for voter registration during the special intensive revision (SIR) of electoral rolls in Bihar, a key figure that has emerged is that of the electoral registration officer (ERO).

For a voter who does not have the required documents, it is the ERO who is empowered to take a call on their inclusion on the voters' list or exclusion, says the latest Election Commission (EC) manual on electoral rolls, issued in March 2023. Senior officials who spoke to *The Hindu* also affirmed this.

The ERO's verdict is to be based on field verification, reports from booth-level officers (BLOs), and the testimonials of village heads and families.

"In case of non-availability of documents, an oath or affirmation from one of the parents, or 'Sarpanch' and even a visible examination by the BLO can work as proof of age. The ERO can do local enquiries to establish proof of residence in the absence of documentary evidence," the manual says.

Thus, in a situation where a voter does not have any of the 11 documents listed for the SIR process, the ERO can take a call based on such inputs.

Administrative officers

The EROs are appointed under Section 13B of the Representation of the People Act, 1950. It is usually civil service or revenue officers, such as sub-divisional officers or others of

Opposition parties, however, warns that an ERO could be influenced by ruling party in the State

equivalent status, who are appointed as EROs for Assembly constituencies which fall within their respective jurisdictions as far as practicable.

In Bihar, the EROs are Bihar Administrative Service officers who hold the rank of Senior Deputy Collector and above. Several Bihar EROs told *The Hindu* that for now, they were just collecting and uploading enumeration forms with attached documents.

It is only after the draft roll is uploaded on August 1 that they plan to tackle cases where no documentation is available.

Most of the documents being attached to forms now being submitted are school leaving certificates, they said.

The EROs accepted that they will face challenges in the cases of voters who do not have any of the 11 documents listed by the EC in its SIR order.

Nitesh Kumar, the ERO of the Chapra Assembly segment, said that the BLOs had directed many people to apply for domicile or permanent residency certificates, which are issued by tehsildars or local revenue officials, to submit as proof of residence along with their enumeration forms in case no other document is available.

However, he agreed that domicile certificates do not provide proof of the applicant's age or place of birth, as required by the SIR. In such cases, "We depend on the panchayat heads and the BLOs who have to certify the age and place of birth of the person," Mr. Kumar said.

Discretionary powers

Anish Kumar, ERO of the Phulparas constituency, said that a certificate given by parents or the village *mukhiya* (headman) would be accepted if other proofs were not available. In case these were also not available, an ERO could do a physical verification and decide whether the person was of voting age, he said.

Opposition parties warned that an ERO, who is a State government functionary, could be influenced by the ruling party. "You are actually allowing due process of law to be decided by the inclination of an ERO. Also, if the ERO is empowered to include a person if he or she is satisfied, then he can also exclude a person if dissatisfied," RJD Rajya Sabha member Manoj K. Jha told *The Hindu*.

SC to hear petitions against revision of electoral rolls today

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Over 10 petitions by Opposition leaders, activists, NGOs and lawyers have been listed.

A Supreme Court Bench of Justices Sudhanshu Dhulia and Joymalya Bagchi will on Thursday hear arguments for and against the special intensive revision (SIR) of the electoral rolls under way in poll-bound Bihar and decide if the drive, initiated by the Election Commission (EC), needs to be stayed for the time being.

Over 10 petitions filed by Opposition leaders, activists, NGOs and lawyers have been listed before the Bench, which had agreed on Monday to urgently list the case on July 10.

The petitions listed for hearing, and challenging the SIR, include ones by Trinamool Congress MP Mahua Moitra, Congress leader K.C. Venugopal, Rashtriya Janata Dal MP Manoj Jha, activists Yogendra Yadav and Arshad Ajmal, and the NGOs Association for Democratic Reforms and People's Union for Civil Liberties. The court has listed a petition filed by advocate Ashwini Kumar Upadhyay supporting the SIR.

The petitions have argued that an interim order from the apex court staying the June 24 notification announcing the SIR was necessary as crores of voters were put on a tight leash to produce documents to prove their domicile or face the prospect of disenfranchisement.

The petitioners contended that the SIR process violated the provisions of the Representation of the People Act, 1950, and Rule 21A of the Registration of Electors Rules, 1960. The petitioners variously argued that the SIR shifted the onus of being on the voters' list from the State to the citizens. Mr. Upadhyay, on the other hand, voted for the periodic conduct of SIRs of electoral rolls across the country.

E-mail :- acezoneii@yahoo.com/acejaipur2.pwd-rj
कार्यालय अति0 मुख्य अभियंता, सा.नि.वि., सम्भाग–द्वितीय, जयपुर।
पी.डब्ल्यू.डी. कैम्पस, जैकब रोड, जयपुर क्लब के सामने, जयपुर
फोन :– 0141–5110537, 5110501 एक्स–299 फैक्स : 0141–5110537
क्रमांक:– 1031 दिनांक:– 30/06/25
निविदा संशोधन सूचना संख्या– 04/2025–26
इस कार्यालय द्वारा जारी निविदा सूचना संख्या 04/2025–26 में सारणी की कम संख्या 04 एव कम संख्या 12 के कार्यो को छोडकर अन्य कार्यो की निविदा अब 10.07.2025 को अपरान्ह 3.00 बजे तक बेची जाकर दिनांक 11.07.2025 को अपरान्ह 3.00 बजे खोली जायेगी। जो राज्य की उपापन पोर्टल (http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in) एवं विभागीय वेबसाईट http://pwd.rajasthan.gov.in. पर देखे जा सकते हैं।
निविदा की शेष शर्तें यथावत रहेंगी।

S.no	UBN	S.no	UBN	S.no	UBN
1	PWD2526WLO801748	6	PWD2526WLO801687	10	PWD2526WLO801897
2	PWD2526WLO801749	7	PWD2526WLO801688	11	PWD2526WLO801898
3	PWD2526WLO801861	8	PWD2526WLO801689		
5	PWD2526WLO801686	9	PWD2526WLO801691		

अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियन्ता
सा.नि.वि. सम्भाग द्वितीय, जयपुर
DIPR/C/9181/2025

Office of the Project Director PMU (RWSRPD)& Chief Engineer
Water Resources(North) Hanumangarh
Notice Inviting Bid
(NIB Code- WRN2526A0048)
Bids for 07 Nos. of works related to Construction of WUAs Building estimated cost of work from Rs. 0.73 Crore to 2.26 Crore are invited from prospective bidders up to 17.07.2025 Time 6.00 P.M. Other particulars of the bids may be visited on the procurement portal http://www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in, of the state and www.water.rajasthan.gov.in departmental website.
UBN No.- WRN2526WSOB00174, WRN2526WSOB00175, WRN2526WSOB00176, WRN2526WSOB00177, WRN2526WSOB00178, WRN2526WSOB00179, WRN2526WSOB00180
(Pradeep Rustagi)
DIPR/C/9200/2025 Project Director PMU (RWSRPD)&Chief Engineer

VISAKHAPATNAM METROPOLITAN REGION DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
'e' Procurement Tender Notice
The VMRDA, Visakhapatnam invites RFP Bids on "e" Procurement Platform for following works.

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	Tender Notice Nos	Last date
1	Selection of Technical Consultant for Preparation of DPR on Value Capture Finance for Development of 4/6/8 lane Greenfield Access-Controlled Semi Ring Road from Bhogapuram to Rambilli	12/2025-26/CE/SE-II/EE-V/VMRDA, Dt. 02-07-2025 (2nd Call)	16-07-2025 3.00 PM
2	Development of All New Ropeway & Luge Gravity Ride at Kailasagiri, Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh on Public Private Partnership (PPP) Basis	20/2025-26/CE/SE-II/EE-V/VMRDA, Dt. 07-07-2025	05-08-2025 5.00 PM
3	Development of Eco Heights Cottages, 360 Degree Revolving Fine Dine Restaurant and Bay View Cafe at Kailasagiri, Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh on Public Private Partnership (PPP) Basis	21/2025-26/CE/SE-II/EE-V/VMRDA, Dt. 09-07-2025	06-08-2025 5.00 PM

For further details logon to www.apeprocurement.gov.in
Sd/-Metropolitan Commissioner, VMRDA

BHARATIYA RESERVE BANK NOTE MUDRAN (P) LIMITED
(WHOLLY OWNED SUBSIDIARY OF RESERVE BANK OF INDIA)
No. 3 & 4, 1st Stage, 1st Phase, BTM Layout, Bannerghatta Road, Bengaluru-560029 Karnataka, India
INVITATION OF PRE-QUALIFICATION BID
(PQB No. 03/CO/TECH/PQB/2025-26 dated July 07, 2025)
BRBNMPL invites Pre-qualification Bid (PQB) from eligible, bonafide and resourceful suppliers for Design, Manufacturing, Testing, Supply, Installation, Commissioning, Training and Performance Testing of "High Capacity Sheet Cutting Combined with Multiple Single Note Inspection System Along with Auto Packing"
Filled in response with details are to be submitted in physical mode to the Chief General Manager, Bharatiya Reserve Bank Note Mudran Private Limited, Corporate Office, No. 3 & 4, 1st Stage, 1st Phase, BTM Layout, Bannerghatta Road, Bengaluru – 560 029, India by 10:30 hrs. IST on or before August 25, 2025.
For PQB documents, eligibility criteria and other details, please visit our website www.brbnmpl.co.in. All further amendments/ corrigendum if any, shall be notified only on the Company website. Interested bidders are requested to visit our website periodically to know changes/amendments, if any.

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU
RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND PANCHAYAT RAJ DEPARTMENT
Notice Inviting Tender
G.O. (Ms) No. 124 Rural Development & Panchayat Raj (SGS.2(1)) Department. Dated:30.06.2025
Construction of 100 bridges in 28 Districts (2025-26)
1. For details, visit www.tntenders.gov.in
2. e-Bids are invited by the Additional Collector (Dev.)/Project Director, DRDA of Ariyalur, Chengalpattu, Coimbatore, Cuddalore, Dindigul, Erode, Kancheepuram, Karur, Krishnagiri, Madurai, Mayiladuthurai, Nagapattinam, Namakkal, Perambalur, Ranipet, Salem, Sivagangai, Thanjavur, Thoothukudi, Tiruchirappalli, Tirupathur, Tiruppur, Tiruvallur, Tiruvannamalai, Vellore, Villupuram, Virudhunagar and Kallakurichi district for the Construction of bridge works package wise under two cover system.
3. The package wise bid documents can be downloaded at free of cost from www.tntenders.gov.in from 14.07.2025 to 30.07.2025.
4. Common date and time for downloading of Bid document, submission and opening:
I) Last Date and Time for downloading and Online Submission of Bid documents : 30.07.2025 upto 3.00 pm
ii) Date and Time of online opening of Bid documents : 30.07.2025 4.00pm onwards
DIPR/3478/TENDER/2025 Commissioner, Rural Development and Panchayat Raj.

Maharashtra State Agricultural Marketing Board, Pune (MSAMB)
e-Tender Notice
MSAMB invites e-Tender for Construction of Godown having its storage capacity 1000 MT at Agricultural Produce Market Committee Buldhana, District Buldhana (Maharashtra State). Estimated cost of said work is Rs.132.49 Lakhs (GST Extra). For details please visit www.msamb.com and https://mahatenders.gov.in.
Managing Director

APPOINTMENTS

KIHT KALAM INSTITUTE OF HEALTH TECHNOLOGY (KIHT)
IMPORTANT UPDATE
KIHT will be conducting interviews for various positions of consultants in KIHT and it's associate organizations. Corresponding job descriptions are available on website www.kiht.in

Advertisement No. 59/2025
Government of India
Public Enterprises Selection Board
invites applications for the post of
Director (Technical)
in
Chennai Petroleum Corporation Limited
Last date of submission of application by the applicants is by 15.00 hours on
01/08/2025
Last date of forwarding of applications by the Nodal officers to PESB is by 17.00 hours on
11/08/2025
For details login to website https://pesb.gov.in

INBRIEF

Nistar, India's first indigenous diving support ship, inducted

The Indian Navy has received its first indigenously designed and built Diving Support Vessel (DSV), *INS Nistar*, from Hindustan Shipyard Ltd. (HSL) at Visakhapatnam on Wednesday. The warship, measuring 118 m with a tonnage of nearly 10,000 tonnes, is equipped with state-of-the-art diving equipment and can undertake deep sea saturation diving for up to a depth of 300 metres. The induction of *Nistar*, with nearly 75% indigenous content, is yet another milestone in the Indian Navy's quest for indigenous construction, said the Indian Navy in a statement.

IndiGo flight to Delhi makes emergency landing in Patna

A Delhi-bound IndiGo flight carrying around 175 passengers returned to Jayaprakash Narayan International Airport in Patna after take-off on Wednesday as one of its engines developed a technical snag due to a bird hit. All the passengers and crew were safe, airport officials said. "IGO5009 Patna to Delhi reported bird hit after takeoff at 0842 IST. One dead bird in pieces found on runway during inspection. The same was advised to the aircraft. Message received from the approach control unit that aircraft requested to come back to Patna due to vibration in one engine. Local stand-by declared and aircraft landed safely at 0903 IST," a statement issued by the Patna airport said. PTI

Gujarat Cong. alleges scam, funds misuse by Minister

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Alleging that Gujarat Panchayat and Agriculture Minister of State Bachubhai Maganbhai Khabad used funds under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) on a plot of land owned by him, the Congress on Monday demanded his dismissal and a court-monitored CBI inquiry.

Addressing a press conference, Rajya Sabha member and party spokesperson Shaktisinh Gohil alleged "a well-planned conspiracy to loot the MGNREGA funds meant for the rural poor labourers".

Showing what he claimed to be documentary evidence, Mr. Gohil said the same plot was shown to be used for the construction of the flood drain, storm wall, dam, and well and even for levelling the land and creating a forest through tree plantation.

"The MGNREGA funds were not only siphoned off in the name of work, but the material for the work was also supplied by Raj Constructions, a firm owned by the Minister's son Balwant Khabad," Mr. Gohil said.

India, Africa must work side by side, says PM in Namibia

India seeks to cooperate, not compete, with Africa, says Mr. Modi; he also congratulated Namibia for adopting UPI digital payment system; Modi given the country's highest civilian honour

Kallol Bhattacherjee
NEW DELHI

Continuing his diplomacy focused on the Global South, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday highlighted India's support to Namibia's decolonisation, "not just in words, but in action".

Addressing a special session of the Namibian Parliament, Mr. Modi congratulated the African nation for adopting India's UPI digital payment system. The Prime Minister also highlighted the country's wider Africa policy, emphasising that India does not aspire to "compete" with anyone in the African continent, but rather seeks to "build together".

"India is proud to have stood with Namibia - not just in words, but in action. Like the tough and elegant plants of Namibia, our friendship has stood the test of time. And, just like your national plant *Welwitschia mirabilis*, it only grows stronger with age and time," Mr. Modi told the joint session of the Parliament of Namibia, highlighting the historic support that India extended to Namibia's freedom from the 1940s. According to the records of the Ministry of External Affairs, India was among the first countries to raise the cause of Namibia's independence at the United Nations in 1946.

Close links: Prime Minister Narendra Modi with Namibia President Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah in Windhoek. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Africa must lead

Africa should not just be a source of raw materials and minerals, but should "lead in value creation and sustainable growth", the Prime Minister said.

"With Africa, we seek not to compete, but to cooperate. Our goal is to build together. Not to take, but to grow together," he added.

Mr. Modi met with Namibian President Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah and signed several agreements, including MoUs to set up an Entrepreneurship Development Centre in Namibia and to cooperate in the field of health and medicine.

Namibia also completed the formalities to join the India-led Coalition of Disaster Resilient Infrastructure and the Global Biofuel Alliance.

The launch of a digital payments system in Namibia later this year was also announced as an outcome of the UPI technology licensing agreement signed between the National Payments Corporation of India and the Bank of Namibia in April 2024.

Mr. Nandi-Ndaitwah also conferred Mr. Modi with the Order of the Most Ancient Welwitschia Mirabilis, Namibia's highest civilian award.

Earlier, Mr. Modi paid homage to the hero of Namibia's freedom movement Sam Nujoma, describing him as "a great friend of India". He recollected Dr. Nujoma's role during the establishment of diplomatic relations between India and Namibia in 1986.

The first diplomatic mission of the South West Africa People's Organisation (SWAPO) was established in India, which provided the organisation with material support as it led the efforts for the liberation of Namibia. India's support to SWAPO is remembered fondly, the Prime Minister said.

SC dismisses petition to stop release of *Udaipur Files*

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Wednesday declined to urgently list for hearing a plea challenging the screening of the movie *Udaipur Files: Kanhaiya Lal Tailor Murder*, and said the film ought to be released.

"Let the film be released. You mention the plea before the Regular Bench upon reopening," a Vacation Bench of Justices Sudhanshu Dhulia and Joymalya Bagchi told counsel appearing for one of the accused in the Kanhaiya Lal murder case. Counsel had argued that the release of the film, scheduled for July 11, would work to prejudice the trial and the right of the accused to a fair trial.

The petition was filed by Mohammed Javed, who is facing trial as the eighth accused in the case. He sought a stay on the film's release till the trial in the case is over. The petitioner contended the film appeared to be "communally provocative" from its trailer and promotional materials, and releasing the movie, portraying the accused as guilty and the story as conclusively true, could seriously prejudice the ongoing proceedings.

Panel grills Air India, DGCA on safety, manpower

Jagriti Chandra
Sobhana K. Nair
Sandeep Phukan
NEW DELHI

The Tata Group-owned Air India and the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) came under heavy fire from Opposition leaders at the parliamentary panel meeting on aviation safety on Wednesday, with Air India told to provide written replies on safety issues following the crash of its Boeing 787 aircraft in Ahmedabad on June 12.

The DGCA also faced tough questions, including on the shortage of personnel, with 45% of its sanctioned posts lying vacant and questions raised on its autonomy, sources said. Staff shortages at the DGCA needed to be addressed as the civil aviation sector is growing rapidly with the induction of more aircraft and new airports in the country, members of the panel said.

Question hour: The parliamentary panel has asked for written replies from Air India on safety issues. FILE PHOTO

The meeting of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Transport, Tourism, and Culture, chaired by Janata Dal(U) MP Sanjay Jha, went on for nearly eight hours. Top officials from the DGCA, the Aircraft Accident Investigation Bureau (AAIB), the Civil Aviation Ministry, the Airports Authority of India, as well as representatives from several airlines, airports, and helicopter operators, were present.

The tone and tenor of Wednesday's meeting seemed to have been set by another parliamentary panel, the Public Accounts Committee, which met on Tuesday.

The DGCA provided a 122-page presentation to the standing committee, sources said. The AAIB, which is investigating the Ahmedabad crash, detailed the investigative process before the panel, and promised to submit a preliminary report "as early as possible" within the 30-day framework laid down by the International Civil Aviation Organization, the UN aviation safety watchdog. The 30-day period concludes on Friday.

The MPs on the panel also expressed concern on overworked air traffic control personnel, stressing they were required to monitor nearly 30 flights simultaneously, whereas only eight to nine flights were guided at a time globally.

Tuesday's meeting of the Public Accounts Committee had also led to several tough questions. The panel demanded the DGCA carry out a safety audit within three months in light of the June 12 crash, though the regulator spoke of constraints resulting from a resource crunch. The DGCA was also asked what it was doing about multiple incidents of technical glitches since the June 12 crash.

When would the people of India receive assurance on the safety of flights in the country, PAC Chairman and Congress MP K.C. Venugopal had asked, sources said.

Questions were also raised on the AAIB's probe into the Air India crash, and whether India had the ability to decode data from the black box or if there was a need to send it abroad. The panel demanded a written answer on the issue.

The panel also asked questions on the composition of the probe committee looking into the crash, and whether it included a Boeing 787-trained pilot and engineer to ensure the requisite expertise. Given the AAIB's advisory role after a crash, who fixes accountability after air accidents, the panel asked.

The PAC also asked Air India why it continued to face consumer complaints on issues such as broken seats and poor air conditioning three years after privatisation, and how long it would take to fix these problems.

Shukla turns farmer in space; grows fenugreek, green gram

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

In the final leg of his space sojourn, Indian astronaut Shubhanshu Shukla turned into a farmer, taking photos of green gram and fenugreek seeds sprouting in petri dishes and inserting them into a storage freezer on the International Space Station (ISS) as part of a study on how microgravity influences seed germination and early phase of plant development.

"I am so proud that ISRO has been able to collaborate with national institutions all over the country and come up with some fantastic research which I am doing on the station for all the scientists and researchers. It is exciting and a joy to do this," Mr. Shukla said in an interaction with Axiom Space Chief Scientist Lucie Low on Wednesday.

Captain Shukla conducting scientific experiments aboard the space station.

The sprouts experiment is led by two scientists – Ravikumar Hosamani of the University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwad and Sudheer Siddapureddy of the Indian Institute of Technology, Dharwad. Once returned to earth, the seeds will be cultivated over several generations to examine changes in their genetics, microbial ecosystems and nutritional profiles, a statement from Axiom Space said.

In another experiment, Mr. Shukla deployed and stowed microalgae, which are being investigated for their potential to produce food, oxygen and even biofuels. Their resilience and versatility make them ideal for supporting human life on long-duration missions.

He also captured images for the crop seeds experiment, where six varieties will be grown over multiple generations post-mission. The goal is to identify plants with desirable traits for genetic analysis for sustainable farming in space

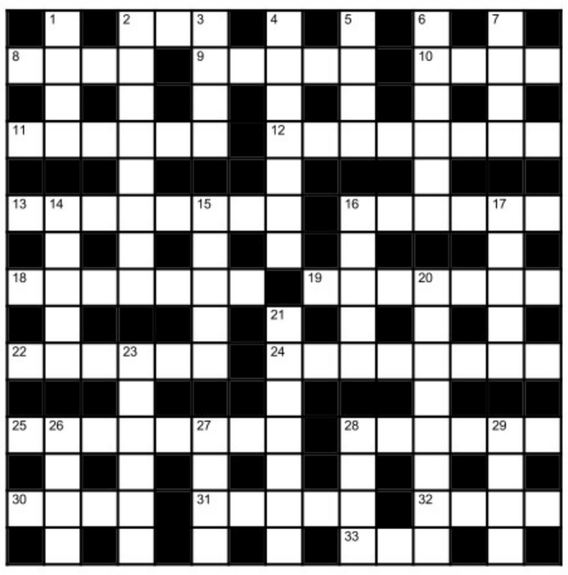
"One particular research I am excited about is stem cell research where scientists are trying to explore whether it is possible to accelerate recovery or growth or repair injury by adding supplements to stem cells" he said.

TH CROSSWORD + 14533

(set by Vidwan)

To solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site. @ *https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn*

SCAN TO PLAY



Across

2 See you survive around year (3)
8 Fish and some peanuts in return (4)
9 Sounds like height of resentment (5)
10 Eye blueberry pickings at times (4)
11 Spoil plan by Spooner for runway (6)
12 Payment for a permit for drain (8)
13 Cab service from Athens, not right for a technology genius (8)
16 Edgar Allan's essay or literary work (6)
18 Immortal divine messenger going north with deists every so often (7)
19 Preventing, keeping model away from getting wet (7)
22 Stylish Charlie to miss fountainhead of youth (6)
24 I'm thus treated resulting in family ruin (8)
25 Roman emperor nursing local infection of ear (8)
28 Crooked cops taking it back for appearance (6)
30 Forget peace without borders (4)
31 Country stuck in uncertain diatribes (5)
32 New fellow taking out date in birthday suit (4)
33 Linger in Bangalore, on the way back (3)

Down

1 Haul around and dance (4)
2 Consolation exam at Royal Castle (8)
3 Long piece, most played (4)
4 Second quake rattled core of Himalayas, making high-pitch sounds (7)
5 Almost quit without a folio (4)
6 Stiff hair (6)
7 Scoundrel appearing during the elections (4)
14 Land deals regularly for bread roll (5)
15 Witness a yokel penning an article (5)
16 Evidence of spiritual strength (5)
17 Learn working of kidneys (5)
20 Eager about India's art (8)
21 Bus overturned, Yankee democrat is back for government assistance (7)
23 Composition of NATO base inside South Africa (6)
26 One adult male, bachelor, inept and corrupt for example (4)
27 Slender dress (4)
28 Stop allowing wearing of gem (4)
29 Law of Catholic state banished millions (4)

SUDOKU

	6				4		8	
		3						5
8	9		2	7		4		
4				5		6		
9			4		3			2
		7		8				4
		4		2	7		6	8
2						5		
	7		9				1	

No.SS6576 Distribution: www.knightfeatures.com

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★☆☆☆☆

Solution to previous puzzle

	S	M	N	B	I	O	A	
H	E	X	A	N	E	A	N	N
	X	N	P	I	C	E	Y	O
A	T	A	X	I	A	H	E	X
		C	L	E	P	E		
U	N	I	A	X	I	A	L	E
	E	T			O	R		U
A	X	I	S	F	I	R	S	T
	U			L	S		E	I
T	S	E	T	S	E	D	E	T
		E	X	E	E	T		
E	P	O	X	Y	I	N	G	A
	O	M	B	R	I	P	L	I
E	X	P	E	L	L	E	E	O
	Y	X	E	E	T	S	N	

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

8	9	2	3	1	5	6	4	7
4	6	1	8	7	9	5	2	3
7	5	3	6	2	4	8	1	9
9	4	8	5	6	1	7	3	2
2	3	6	7	9	8	1	5	4
5	1	7	2	4	3	9	8	6
3	8	9	4	5	6	2	7	1
1	2	5	9	3	7	4	6	8
6	7	4	1	8	2	3	9	5

FAITH

Guru Purnima day

It is one of the commonest and yet most complex quests. How does one rise above earthly considerations and attain knowledge of Paramathma in this world? The answer lies in finding the right teacher, preceptor, guide or guru. One of the widely known prayers, "*Guru Brahma Guru Vishnu Guru Devo Masheswaraah Gurur sakshat Parabrahma Tasmai Sri Gurave Namaha*", is uttered on Guru Purnima day, as a way of saluting the guru.

Every year, the full moon appearing during the ashada month (period between Amavasya in the Tamil months of Ani and Adi) is celebrated as Guru Purnima, as a way of honouring gurus who dispel the darkness of ignorance and throw light on true knowledge, said Tirukkudanthai Dr. Venkatesh.

Guru Purnima is the day on which Veda Vyasa, the ultimate teacher, was born to sage Parasara and his spouse Satyavati. Vyasa divided the Vedas into Rig, Yajur, Sama and Atharvana and penned Mahabharata, a magnum opus hailed as the fifth Veda. He compiled Bhagavad Gita and Vishnu Sahasranamam, apart from authoring 18 puranas.

A number of preceptors have made a study of his works and disseminated the knowledge in a simple and easily comprehensible manner, a service that impels everyone to spontaneously show their obeisance on this day to their teachers.

On this day, people pray to Dakshinamoorthy, Hayagriva, Lord Krishna, Vyasa, Adi Sankara, Ramanuja, Madhwacharya and many others, as per their tradition. As the popular adage goes, *mata, pita, guru, deivam*, it is the guru who leads one towards one's ultimate goal: God.

INBRIEF

Granules in U.S. recalls 33,000 bottles of hypertension drug

Granules Pharmaceuticals Inc is recalling more than 33,000 bottles of hypertension drug Metoprolol Succinate Extended-Release Tablets, USP, 25 mg, in the U.S. market. The recall includes 27,648 bottles of 100-count and 5,376 bottles of 500-count. It is a voluntary recall on account of failed dissolution specifications in stability studies at six months, the U.S. FDA said.

IndiGo arm closes ₹450-crore fund, invests in Jeh Aerospace

IndiGo Ventures, the corporate venture capital arm of air carrier IndiGo, announced the first closure of its maiden fund at ₹450 crore. The firm has also approved its first investment in Jeh Aerospace, a Hyderabad-based aerospace start-up focused on high-precision aerospace and defence manufacturing. It, however, did not disclose how much it was investing.

GHCL Textiles commissions additional facility in T.N.

GHCL Textiles Ltd. commenced commercial production at its newly-added manufacturing section at Paravai unit in Madurai. The section adds 25,536 ring spindles. The firm invested about ₹215 crore in the expansion. "This capacity enhancement reinforces our resolve to deliver superior value to our stakeholders," said R. S. Jalan, director, GHCL Textiles, in a release.

LNJ Bhilwara flagship RSWM to focus on southern market

RSWM, the flagship company of LNJ Bhilwara Group, will focus on the southern market as sales in the southern States grew 15 % last financial year, said Rajeev Gupta, JMD, RSWM Ltd. The firm recently unveiled an action plan for sustainable growth, focus on innovation and presence in the entire value chain. Almost 40% of its knitted fabric and 25% of melange yarn are sold in the south, Mr. Gupta added.

Equity mutual funds' net inflows up 24% in June: AMFI

Net inflows dipped 22% to ₹19,000 cr. in May, the lowest in about a year; Systematic Investment Plan (SIPs) contributions increased to ₹27,269 crore, an increase of more than 2% from May

Ashokamithran T.
MUMBAI

Net inflows into equity mutual funds rose 24% to ₹23,587 crore in June, as per data from Association of Mutual Funds in India (AMFI).

Net inflows dipped 22% to ₹19,000 crore in May, the lowest in about a year.

"While market volatility has made some investors cautious, we're also witnessing a healthy shift towards hybrid and arbitrage funds, a trend that shows maturing investor behaviour and a preference for balanced risk strategies in uncertain times," said Venkat Chalasani, CEO, AMFI.

Positive vibe: Some experts said rise in net inflows into equity MFs reflects 'investor confidence in India's long-term growth.' REUTERS

Amount contributed via Systematic Investment Plans (SIPs) increased to ₹27,269 crore, an increase of more than 2% from May.

Experts are divided on the reasons behind this robust growth in MF inflows.

A group of experts said the rise in net inflows into equity MFs was an outcome of 'investor confidence in India's long-term growth' and the performance of mid- and small-cap stocks. "The uptick in hybrid strategies also suggests investors are seeking a balance between growth and risk mitigation –a healthy sign of evolving market maturity," said Ankur Punj MD and national head Equirus Wealth.

Some others say this represents retail investor buying while being agnostic to prices. Analysts said stocks such as defence rose more on narratives than on fundamentals.

'Lithium-ion battery recycling can touch $3.5 bn by 2030'

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Recycling lithium ion batteries could spark an industry worth $3.5 billion by 2030 with the right policy steps, as per a report released by the India Cellular and Electronics Association (ICEA) and Accenture.

"India currently recycles only 1% of its end-of-life lithium-ion batteries into usable materials," ICEA said in a statement accompanying the report.

"This low recovery rate signals an urgent environmental challenge and a major economic opportunity waiting to be unlocked.

"Recovering more end-of-life lithium ion batteries could feed back into India's growing demand for electric vehicles, consumer electronics and energy storage systems," it said.

Electronics recycling in India is at present the preserve of a sprawling informal economy, focused on repairing and spare parts. Policies to push electronics makers to take more "extended responsibility" for their products years after they are sold are yet to have a major impact.

The report recommends four key areas of work: scaling up domestic cell manufacturing (so that the recycled batteries have a place to productively be used in new manufacturing), building "hydrometallurgical" capabilities, reforming trade rules and "revamping reverse logistics," a reference to e-waste recycling.

The topic assumes importance as China moves to curb exports of key rare earth elements used in EVs, driving countries reliant on exports of key minerals to find ways to secure supply chains.

Starlink secures one more approval

Aroon Deep
NEW DELHI

Starlink on Tuesday received an authorisation to operate its broadband satellite constellation over India from the Indian National Space Promotion and Authorisation Centre (IN-SPACe), the body disclosed in an update on its website on Wednesday.

IN-SPACe comes under the Department of Space. This is the second major approval Starlink received in India after Global Mobile Personal Communications by Satellite (GMPCS) authorisation last month from the Department of Telecommunications.

While Starlink in particular and satellite broadband in general have been an object of fascination of the government, security and ownership concerns among government officials have posed significant barriers to the firm starting operations in India.

Security and ownership concerns among government officials are significant barriers.

The IN-SPACe authorisation is a step in the right direction for the Elon Musk-owned SpaceX, which runs Starlink, which could beam an internet connection where mobile connection is not available.

Textile exporters watch U.S. tariff move

The Hindu Bureau
COIMBATORE

The Indian textile industry is on a wait and watch mode regarding U.S. tariff announcements.

Between January and May this year, the U.S. imported textiles and apparel worth $5.11 billion from India, which is 13% more than the exports for the same period last year.

"We are actively tracking the progress of the latest tariff-related announcements, including their impact on specific sectors, since they concern many countries which are our competitors in the textile and apparel export arena," said the Confederation of Indian Textile Industry chairman Rakesh Mehra.

"The initial signs in this connection augur well for Indian textile and apparel exporters in terms of being able to expand access in the U.S. as they would now become more price competitive relative to those from other countries," he added. The U.S. had imposed a 35% tariff on exports from Bangladesh.

The industry is confident a mini trade deal would be in place soon.

Between Jan.-May, the U.S. imported textiles and apparel worth $5.11 billion from India.

U.S. short-seller makes harsh claims on Vedanta Group

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

A U.S. short-seller, Viceroy Research, has flung allegations at Anil Agarwal-owned Vedanta Group, calling Vedanta Resources (VRL) a 'parasite' and a 'financial zombie' and its listed subsidiary Vedanta Ltd (VEDL) a 'dying host'.

Viceroy Research, which has a short position on VRL's debt stack, said the Vedanta group structure was "financially unsustainable, operationally compromised" and was a "severe, under-appreciated risk to creditors".

"VRL is a 'parasite' holding company with no significant operations of its own, propped up entirely by cash extracted from its dying 'host': VEDL," it said.

VRL and its web of intermediate holding companies held no material operating assets and carried about $4.9 billion in gross interest-bearing liabilities as of FY25, said the report. The survival of VRL depends on its ability to extract cash from publicly-listed VEDL, it said.

Among other allegations, the report said VRL has extracted $338 million as "brand fee" annually from VEDL and its subsidiaries in FY24 alone.

VRL used loans from VEDL subsidiaries to purchase VEDL stock on-market, but over $122 million of VEDL loans were "written off" in a blatant violation of the Companies Act, it said.

Vedanta Group dismissed the report, terming it 'false propaganda'. REUTERS

The 87-page Viceroy Research report accused VRL of draining VEDL, forcing it to take on more debt and deplete its cash reserves, impaired creditors' ability to recover their principal, a situation that resembled a 'Ponzi scheme', it said.

Vedanta denies

Vedanta Group dismissed Viceroy Research report as "a malicious combination of selective misinformation and baseless allegations to discredit the group".

Terming the report "false propaganda", the company said, "The timing of the report is suspect and could be to undermine the forthcoming corporate initiatives."

The group added that the report's authors had included extensive disclaimers stating that the content was opinion-based.

(The writer is with The Hindu businessline)

SEBI mulls allowing CRAs to rate more instruments

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

Markets watchdog SEBI (Securities and Exchange Board of India) on Wednesday proposed permitting credit rating agencies (CRAs) to undertake the rating of financial instruments that may come under other financial sector regulators (FSRs), even if they have not issued any rating-related guidelines.

Currently, CRAs can only rate securities that are listed or proposed to be listed on a stock exchange recognised by SEBI.

The regulator suggested that CRAs may undertake only those rating activities that are fee-based and non-fund-based.

India-origin Khan named new COO of Apple Inc.

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

Apple Inc. named India-origin Sabih Khan as its new chief operating officer (COO). Mr. Khan, 58, who has been with Apple for 30 years and is currently the senior VP of operations, will succeed Jeff Williams, the iPhone maker said.

MARKETS

MARKET WATCH

	WEDNESDAY	% CHANGE
Sensex	83,536	-0.21
US Dollar	85.73	------
Gold	98,420	-0.71
Brent oil	70.30	0.23

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Enter	2583.00	-8.30
Adani Ports	1443.00	-5.50
Apollo Hosp	7469.00	-96.00
Asian Paints	2498.90	14.30
Axis Bank	1164.70	-0.70
Bajaj Auto	8361.00	21.50
Bajaj Finserv	2026.40	8.10
Bajaj Finance	940.60	12.95
Bharat Elec	417.65	-4.35
Bharti Airtel	2019.70	-10.30
Cipla	1491.70	3.40
Coal India	387.45	4.60
Dr Reddys Lab	1269.40	-14.40
Eicher Motors	5695.00	15.50
Eternal Ltd.	264.55	1.05
Grasim Ind	2797.90	-22.90
HCL Tech	1674.00	-34.10
HDFC Bank	2011.20	9.80
HDFC Life	786.30	-7.85
Hero MotoCorp	4333.10	32.70
Hindalco	673.95	-11.65
Hind Unilever	2423.40	30.70
ICICI Bank	1431.90	-10.10
IndusInd Bank	840.75	-9.55
Infosys	1633.70	-5.00
ITC	419.45	2.25
Jio Financial Services Ltd.	329.85	1.00
JSW Steel	1040.40	-4.60
Kotak Bank	2229.30	4.80
L&T	3579.70	-26.70
M&M	3176.30	18.40
Maruti Suzuki	12470.00	56.00
NestleIndia	2427.80	9.90
NTPC	344.00	0.80
ONGC	243.35	0.11
PowerGrid Corp	299.65	1.90
Reliance Ind	1519.00	-18.60
SBI Life	1814.90	-2.00
State Bank	810.95	-1.70
Shriram Finance Ltd.	681.05	12.10
Sun Pharma	1669.40	-3.10
TataConsumerProduct	1097.90	-2.00
Tata Motors	692.80	-0.40
Tata Steel	159.00	-2.97
TCS	3383.80	-22.40
Tech Mahindra	1614.80	-20.60
Titan	3432.10	-9.20
Trent Ltd.	5408.00	-32.00
UltraTech Cement	12562.00	117.00
Wipro	267.80	-1.85

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on July 09

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	85.47	85.79
Euro	100.04	100.42
British Pound	116.14	116.58
Japanese Yen (100)	58.28	58.50
Chinese Yuan	11.90	11.95
Swiss Franc	107.29	107.69
Singapore Dollar	66.71	66.98
Canadian Dollar	62.40	62.64
Malaysian Ringitt	20.10	20.19
Australian Dollar	55.76	55.98

Source:Indian Bank

THE HUTTI GOLD MINES COMPANY LIMITED
(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
Hutti - 584 115, Raichur Dist., Karnataka State. Ph: (08537) 276339 / 275463,
e-Mail: material276339@gmail.com website: www.huttigold.karnataka.gov.in

TENDER NOTIFICATION NO. 03/25-26 DT: 10.07.2025
(Through KPP Portal only)

Tender is invited by "The Senior Manager (Materials)" for the following Tenders as detailed

Sl.No.	Description	EMD in Rs.
1	Tender for Procurement of Food Kit. **HGML/2025-26/IND0334**	2,14,000/-
2	Tender for Outsourcing of 30 Ex-Servicemen/Paramilitary Security Personnel for HGML. **HGML/2025-26/SE0054.**	2,30,000/-

Calendar of events: (1) Pre-Bid Meetings (Zoom): **23.07.2025 for Sl.No.1 at 10.30 A.M. Sl.No. 2 at 11.00 A.M. (2)** Last date for receipt of tender: **09.08.2025 at 4.00 P.M (3)** Opening of Technical Bid on: **11.08.2025 at 10.00 A.M.** For further details interested bidders are advised to log on to website **https://www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in** or contact the office of undersigned during working hours. For participating in the above tender bidder needs to be registered in KPP Portal.

Sd/-Senior Manager (Materials)

LEADING GOLD PRODUCER IN INDIA

BANGALORE ELECTRICITY SUPPLY COMPANY LIMITED
(Wholly Owned Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
CIN-U04010KA2002SGC030438

CORRIGENDUM

Tenders vide Enquiry No. BESCOM/2025-26/IND0151 for **"Implementation of Application Access Control System using Zero Trust Framework"** intended to publish in KPP Portal on 10.07.2025 will be published at later date and the tender calendar of events will be intimated later.

Sd/- **General Manager, (ICT&MIS), BESCOM, 5th Floor, Belaku Bhavana, K. R. Circle, Bengaluru-560001.**

INDIAN INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE EDUCATION AND RESEARCH, TIRUPATI
(An Autonomous Institute of National Importance under the Ministry of Education, Govt. of India)

Advt. No. 06/2025/IISER-T/Rect./27.05.2025 Date: July 07, 2025

CORRIGENDUM

Last date for submitting the online applications for Advt. No. 06/2025 is extended till 17.00 Hrs on July 22, 2025. However, the crucial date for determining age, experience, etc., shall remain the same, i.e., July 07, 2025.

The rest of the contents of the advertisement remain unchanged.

Sd/-
Registrar (i/c)

BANGALORE WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE BOARD

INVITATION FOR TENDERS
(Through KPP Portal Only)

BWSSB invites tenders in two stage tender system from eligible contractors for the following works.

Sl. No.	Name of the Works	Amount put to Tender / EMD Amount
Office of the Chief Engineer(Kaveri-Operation & Maintenance), 6th Floor, Cauvery Bhavan, K.G. Road, Bangalore - 560 009.		
IFT No.: BWSSB/CEK(O&M)TE/TA-01/102/2024-25/395		Dt:09.07.2025
1	Construction of Quarters Building 2 Block of 06 Houses (G+2) at Harohalli.	Rs. 263.22 Lakhs / Rs. 3.95 Lakhs
Last date for receipt of tenders : **11.08.2025 upto 15:00 Hrs.** Technical bids will be opened on: **12.08.2025 at 16.00 Hrs.**		
IFT No.: BWSSB/CEK(O&M)TE/TA-01/61/2024/397/2025-26		Dt:09.07.2025
2	Supply, Installation of 4 Track Insertion Type Ultrasonic Type Flow Meter to Stage 1, Stage 2, Stage 3, Stage 4 Phase 1 & 2 Pumping Station Main line at TK Halli (Call-4).	Rs. 129.921 Lakhs / Rs. 2.00 Lakhs
Last date for receipt of tenders : **24.07.2025 upto 15:00 Hrs.** Technical bids will be opened on: **25.07.2025 at 16.00 Hrs.**		
IFT No.: BWSSB/CEK(O&M)TE/TA-01/102/2024-25/399		Dt:09.07.2025
3	Construction of Quarters Building 2 Block of 06 Houses (G+2) at Tataguni (Call-3)	Rs. 263.22 Lakhs / Rs. 3.95 Lakhs
Last date for receipt of tenders : **08.08.2025 upto 15:00 Hrs.** Technical bids will be opened on: **11.08.2025 at 16.00 Hrs.**		

Sd/- Chief Engineer (Kaveri-Operation & Maintenance)

The details regarding the tender and participatin in the e-procurement process can be obtained by logging on to **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** For further details contact the above signed office during working hours.

DIPR/CP/JA/1716/2025-26

Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike
Office of the Executive Engineer-5, Health and Sanitation, BBMP Head Office, #408, Annex-3 Building, 4th Floor, N.R. Square, Bengaluru-560 002.

No.BBMP/EE-5/H&S/TEND/04/2025-26/Call-2 Date: 09.07.2025

INVITATION FOR SHORT TERM TENDER (IFT)
(Two Cover System) through KPP Portal only
(website: https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in)

The Government of Karnataka under 15th Finance Grants has allocated funds for Procurement of battery operated (EV) Mechanical Street Sweeping Machines of capacity less 2 cum capacity. In view of this Procurement of battery operated (EV) Mechanical Street Sweeping Machines are planned to be taken up.

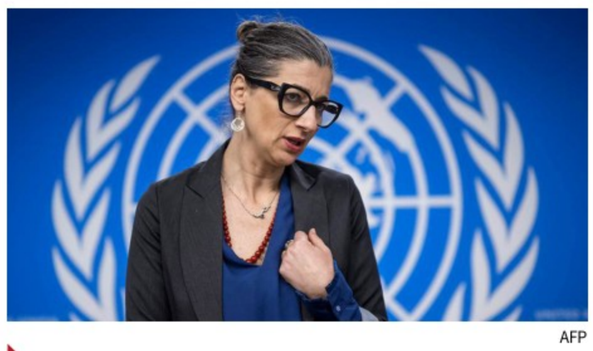
Sl. No.	Name of the Project
1.	**Procurement of Smaller Mechanical Sweeping Machines 71 Numbers Battery Operated (EV) of capacity less than 2 cum for sweeping of local streets in dense populated areas such as Markets, Commercial Street in order to reduce the dust in BBMP limits.** Approximate Amount put to tender (₹. in Lakhs): Capex 726.87 (Inclusive of Taxes), EMD (₹. in Lakhs) : 10.90

Calendar of Events: (1) Availability of RFP documents from **10.07.2025 onwards. (2)** Last Date of Receipt of Queries: **15.07.2025 up to 3:00 p.m. (3)** Date of Pre bid meeting at the Office Special Commissioner (H&S) on **15.07.2025 at 3:30 p.m. (4)** Last Date for receipt of Tenders is **28.07.2025 before 4:00 p.m. (5)** Date of Opening of Technical Proposals is **29.07.2025 at 4:30 p.m. (6)** Date of Opening of Financial Proposals after Approval of Technical Proposals through KPPP.

Sd/- Executive Engineer-5, Health and Sanitation, BBMP.

WASHINGTON

U.S. sanctions UN rights expert for Palestine for prompting ICC action

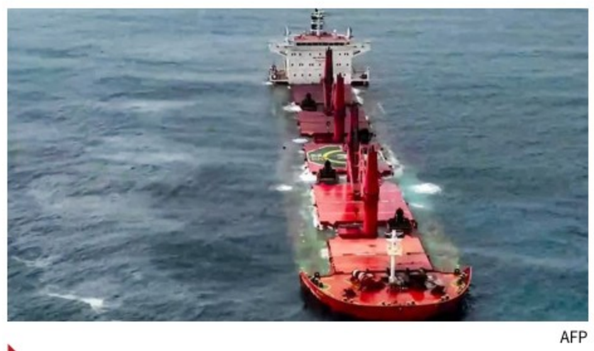


AFP

U.S. Secretary of State Marco Rubio announced that Washington was sanctioning the UN Human Rights Council's Special Rapporteur for the Palestinian Territories Francesca Albanese. The sanctions were in response to her 'illegitimate efforts to prompt (International Criminal Court) action against U.S. and Israeli officials', he said. AFP

DUBAI

Ship attacked by Houthis sinks in Red Sea, six of 25 aboard rescued



AFP

A Liberian-flagged cargo ship attacked by Yemen's Houthis sank on Wednesday in the Red Sea, with a European naval force saying only six of 25 people on board were rescued. The attack on the *Eternity C*, which killed three of the crew, represents the most serious assault carried out by the Houthis in the maritime trade route. AP

LONDON

'Critical that U.K., France partner over AI to catch up with China, U.S.'

REUTERS

President Emmanuel Macron said on Wednesday it was "critical" that France and the U.K. work together on artificial intelligence in order to catch up with the United States and China. The President added: "The partnership between (the) U.K. and France is for me critical, because we... face the same challenges." AFP

TAIPEI

Taiwan begins 10-day military drills to counter Chinese threats

REUTERS

Taiwan launched annual military drills intended to guard against Chinese threats to invade, including using so-called "gray zone tactics" deployed by China that stop just short of open warfare. This year's 10-day live-fire Han Guang drills are the longest yet and follow the delivery of a range of new weaponry. AP

Israeli strikes kill 40 as truce remains elusive in Gaza despite Trump's push

No breakthrough on ceasefire despite a second day of talks between the U.S. President and visiting Israel PM Benjamin Netanyahu; toll in the besieged Strip includes 17 women and 10 children with 10 members from one family laid to rest

Associated Press
DEIR AL-BALAH

Israeli air strikes killed at least 40 Palestinians in the Gaza Strip, including 10 members of a family sheltering in a tent, hospital officials said on Wednesday. The strikes came as U.S. President Donald Trump pushed for a ceasefire that might end the war and free dozens of Israeli hostages.

Mr. Trump met with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu for the second time in two days at the White House on Tuesday evening, but there was no sign of a breakthrough.

Constant blasts: A plume of smoke rises during an Israeli strike in the Tuffah neighbourhood of Gaza City on Wednesday. AFP

Nasser Hospital in the southern city of Khan Younis said the dead included 17 women and 10 children. The war has gutted Gaza's health system, with several hospitals taken out of service and leading physicians killed in Israeli strikes.

The Israeli military said it had struck more than 100 targets across Gaza over the past day.

On Wednesday, crowds of people bid farewell to the 10 members of the Shaaban family killed in an Israeli strike while they were inside their tent in the southern city of Khan Younis.

Intensified strikes

"I found all my children dead, and my daughters' three children dead," said Um Mohammad Shaaban, a nickname that means Mohammad Shaaban's mother.

"It's supposed to be a safe area where we were," the Palestinian added.

She said that strikes have intensified even as hope for a ceasefire has risen. "The hospital last night was jam-packed," she said.

Palestinians are desperate for an end to the war that has killed tens of thousands, destroyed vast areas and displaced around 90% of the territory's population.

Aid groups say Israeli restrictions and the breakdown of law and order have made it extremely difficult to deliver humanitarian assistance, leading to widespread hunger and fears of famine.

Russia launches 728 drones at Ukraine after Trump's vow

Reuters
KYIV

Russia targeted Ukraine with a record 728 drones early on Wednesday, hours after U.S. President Donald Trump pledged to send more defensive weapons to Kyiv and aimed sharp criticism at Russian President Vladimir Putin.

The attack was the latest in a series of escalating air assaults in recent weeks that have involved hundreds of drones in addition to ballistic missiles, straining Ukrainian air defences at a perilous moment in the war.

Kyiv's military downed almost all the drones but some of the six hypersonic missiles launched by Russia had caused unspecified damage. Officials reported one person killed by drone debris in western Ukraine. Russia's Defence Ministry said it had struck military airfields.

Closer to the battle zone, eight persons were reported killed by drones and guided bombs in the Ukrainian-held part of the frontline Donetsk region.

Damage control: An Ukrainian official extinguishing a fire following a Russian attack in the Kyiv region on Wednesday. AFP

President Volodymyr Zelenskiy, due to meet U.S. envoy Keith Kellogg in Rome ahead of a gathering of countries friendly to Ukraine, said the strike showed the need for "biting sanctions" on Russia's income, including on countries that buy Russian oil.

French police raid far-right party office in finance investigation

Associated Press
PARIS

The French police raided the headquarters of far-right party National Rally on Wednesday and seized documents and accounting records, the party's leader said, as part of a sweeping campaign finance inquiry.

Prosecutors said they are investigating allegations of illegal financing of long-time party leader Marine Le Pen's 2022 presidential bid, and the party's European Parliament and French parliamentary campaigns. The National Rally, which seeks to sharply curtail migration and restrict Muslims' rights, is the biggest single party in France's lower house of parliament.

Jordan Bardella, 29, who took over the presidency of the party in 2022, said that police seized "all files relating to the party's recent regional, presidential, legislative, and European campaigns."

Marine Le Pen

The raid came after Ms. Le Pen – runner-up to incumbent President Emmanuel Macron in 2022 – was convicted of embezzlement in April. She and 24 other party officials were accused of having used money intended for European Union parliamentary aides to instead pay staff who worked for the party between 2004 and 2016, violating the 27-nation bloc's regulations.

But Wednesday's raid stems from a different, more recent case.

Trump issues more letters in push for tariff deals

Agence France-Presse
WASHINGTON

U.S. President Donald Trump released a fresh set of letters to trading partners on Wednesday, setting out tariff rates for seven more countries as Washington pushes to bring about a flurry of trade deals.

The letters, addressed to leaders of the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Brunei, Algeria, Libya, Iraq and Moldova, spelled out duties ranging from 20% to 30% that would take effect on August 1.

Similar to Mr. Trump's first batch of documents published on Monday, the levels were not too far from those originally threatened in April, although some partners received notably lower rates this time.

Sri Lanka's updated tariff was 30%, down from 44% announced in April, while the figure for Iraq was 30%, down from 39%.

Tapes suggest Hasina ordered deadly crackdown

Agence France-Presse
DHAKA

Audio recordings analysed by the *BBC* suggest Bangladesh's fugitive former Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina ordered a deadly crackdown on protests last year, allegations for which she is on trial.

Up to 1,400 people were killed between July and August 2024, according to the United Nations, when Ms. Hasina's government ordered a crackdown on protesters in a failed bid to cling to power.

Sheikh Hasina

Ms. Hasina, 77, fled to India at the culmination of the student-led uprising and has defied orders to return to Dhaka, where her trial in absentia for charges amounting to crimes against humanity opened on June 1.

The BBC Eye Investigations team analysed audio alleged to be of Ms. Hasina – and which forms a key plank of the evidence for the prosecution – which was leaked online.

In the recording, dated July 18, 2024, a voice alleged to be Ms. Hasina is heard authorising forces to "use lethal weapons" against protesters and that "wherever they find (them), they will shoot".

The *BBC* said audio forensics experts had found no evidence that the speech had been edited or manipulated, and that it was "highly unlikely to have been synthetically generated". Bangladesh police have also matched the audio with verified recordings of Ms. Hasina.

Request to India

Meanwhile, Bangladesh's interim government led by Chief Adviser Muhammad Yunus on Wednesday urged India to be guided by "conscience and moral clarity" over its handling of the extradition request for Ms. Hasina.

Bangladesh in December last year had sent India a note verbale, requesting the extradition of Ms. Hasina. New Delhi had confirmed receipt of the formal diplomatic note but did not comment further.

Describing India's stance as "no longer tenable", Mr. Alam said neither regional friendship, strategic considerations, nor political legacy could justify "the deliberate murder of civilians".

Chief of Musk-owned X quits after Grok chatbot's anti-Semitism row

Agence France-Presse
SAN FRANCISCO

Grok was under fire for comments that praised Hitler and insulted Islam in separate posts

Linda Yaccarino resigned on Wednesday as CEO of X, the social media platform formerly known as Twitter, after two years at the helm of the Elon Musk-owned company.

In a statement posted on the platform, she said she had decided to step down following what she described as "two incredible years" leading the company through a major transformation.

No reason was given for her exit, but the resignation came as Mr. Musk's artificial intelligence chatbot Grok was under fire for anti-Semitic comments that praised Adolf Hitler and insulted Islam in separate posts on the X platform.

Ms. Yaccarino – a former *NBCUniversal* advertising executive – took over as X's CEO in June 2023, replacing Mr. Musk who had been serving in the role since his $44 billion acquisition of Twitter in 2022.

In her statement, Ms. Yaccarino praised the "historic business turn around" achieved by the X team and suggested the platform was entering "a new chapter" with xAI, Mr. Musk's AI company. xAI in March acquired X in an all-stock deal that valued the social media platform at $33 billion, making it a subsidiary of Mr. Musk's AI company.

RAIL WHEEL FACTORY
Yelahanka, Bengaluru-560 064.
Website: rwf.indianrailways.gov.in

E - TENDER NOTICE
NO. RWF_MIS_NGFW_01 Dated 08-07-2025

On behalf of the President of India, The Electronic Data Processing Manager / RWF/MIS Center invites electronic tender for the following work online through the website **https://www.ireps.gov.in** from experienced / reputed contractors in the field.

Tender Number: RWF_MIS_NGFW_01 Dated 08-07-2025. **Scope of Work: Annual Maintenance Contract for NGFW Sonicwall NSa 5650 for a period of Two Years in Rail Wheel Factory, Yelahanka, Bangalore-560064.** Estimated Cost: **Rs. 19,78,742/-** (for Two Years AMC) Earnest Money Deposit: **Rs.39,575/-.** Due Date & Time: **08/08/2025 Tender closing at 15:00 Hrs.** Cost of Tender document: **Nil.** Contract Period: **24 (Twenty Four) months from the date of issue of LOA.**

Sr. EDP MANAGER

TRANSMISSION CORPORATION OF TELANGANA LIMITED
E-PROCUREMENT NOTICE

The TGTRANSCO invites online Bids on e-procurement platform for supply of the following Equipment. **Tender Specification No.:** TGPMM31- 23/2025, **Name of the Works:** Supply, Installation and Configuration of **Item 1:** 55 Nos. Desktop Computers with preloaded Antivirus & 3 years OEM Support and warranty, **Item 2:** 60 Nos. Laser Printers.
in TGTransco. Tenderers can have further details and download the tender schedule from e-procurement platform @ **www.tender.telangana.gov.in.** Contact Nos: Chief Engineer/ P&MM, TGTransco, Hyderabad, **Phone: 040-23396000, Extn.: 3537/3323/ 3583/ 3487, www.tgtransco.com**
DIPR R.O. No.: 340-PP/CL-AGENCY/ADVT/1/2025-26 **Sd/- Chief Engineer/P&MM**

GREATER HYDERABAD MUNICIPAL CORPORATION
NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING
O/o The Superintending Engineer (Projects-WZ), GHMC, Hyderabad
Tender Notice No. 07/SE(P-WZ)/GHMC/2025-26/(2nd Call) Date: 09-07-2025

Item No.:	Name of Work	Est. Cost
1.	Construction of 2-Lane Unidirectional flyover at NFCL junction, Banjara hills, GHMC and Construction of 2-Lane Uni-directional underpass and 3 lane Uni-directional flyover at TV9 Junction Banjara Hills, GHMC - under Engineering Procurement and Construction (EPC)/Turnkey - Basis.	Rs. 368 Crores.

S.No.	Events	Date & Time
1.	Start date	10-07-2025 from 04.00 PM
2.	Last Date & Time for Receipts of Bids	17-07-2025 upto 03.00 PM
3.	Opening of Technical bid	17-07-2025 after 04.00 PM
4.	Opening of Price bid	20-07-2025 after 04.00 PM

Note: The Bidders are advised to visit www.tender.telangana.gov.in to download Bid Document and EPC project Tender Drawings. Any Queries can be addressed sesrdppwz@gmail.com. *Address of the officer concerned Sri.G. Sree Lakshmi, SE(P-WZ) Superintending Engineer (Projects-WZ), Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation, Tank Bund Road, Hyderabad.* Further details can be seen at 'e' Procurement **https://tender.telangana.gov.in.** Sd/- **Superintending Engineer, (Projects-WZ) GHMC**
DIPR R.O.No.4778-PP/CL/ADVT/1/2025-26 Dt. 09.07.2025

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Executive Engineer, Pulikeshinagar Division
BBMP Office Building, Robertson Road, Frazer Town, Bengaluru.

No. EE/PN/TEND/05/2025-26 Date: 09.07.2025

INVITATION FOR SHORT TERM TENDER
Two Cover System (Only through GoK KPP Portal)

The Executive Engineer, Pulikeshinagar Division, BBMP, Bengaluru on behalf the Commissioner, BBMP invites Tenders from eligible contractors registered in BBMP or equivalent registration with CPWD / KPWD / Railways / MES / National Highway or any State Govt. Organisations for the following work.

Sl. No.	Name of the Work	Approx. value of work (Rs. in lakhs)	EMD Amount (in Rs.)
1	Comprehensive development of Roads & Drains in Mariyamma Kovil Street & surrounding area (Block No. 57), Periyarnagar & surrounding area (Block No. 56), Rajappa Block & surrounding area (Block No. 54/2), Govindappa Block & surrounding area (Block No. 55) in Ward No. 71 (Old Ward No. 48), Muneshwaranagar **(2nd Call).**	500.00	7,50,000/-

Period of completion (Including monsoon) : **120 days.**
Calendar of Events: (1) Tender documents may be downloaded from KPP Portal **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in from 14.07.2025, 16.00 hrs. (2)** Date of Pre-bid meeting : **18.07.2025 at 16.00 hrs. (3)** Last date & time for submission of tenders : **07.08.2025 upto 16.00 hrs. (4)** Date of opening of technical bid : **08.08.2025 at 16.30 hrs.** Further details may be obtained from the above office during office hours or from KPP Portal **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/- Executive Engineer
Pulikeshinagar Division, BBMP

E-Mail : sencrwangul@yahoo.co.in; Ph. No.06764-236404
Government of Odisha
Office of the Chief Construction Engineer,
Rural Works Circle, Angul

TENDER CALL NOTICE FOR BRIDGE WORKS IN ODISHA
Bid Identification No. Bridge Online AGL-05/2025-26

No. 1985 // Dt. 07.07.25 //

1. Name of the Work : Bridge Works
2. Total No. of Work : 08 Nos.
3. Estimated Cost : Rs.145.08 Lakhs to Rs.772.93 Lakhs (Approx.)
4. Class of Contractor : As per Annexure
5. Period of Completion: As per Annexure
6. Other details

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	Availability of Tender On-line for bidding From	To	Last Date & Time of seeking tender Clarification	Date & Time of Opening of Tender Technical Bid	Financial Bid
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Chief Construction Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Angul	Bridge Online -AGL-05/2025-26	15.07.25 at 10.00 A.M.	29.07.25 up to 5.00 P.M.	28.07.25 up to 1.00 P.M.	30.07.25 at 11.00 AM	Will be intimated separately

(1) For detailed Notice Inviting Tenders, Please visit to the website www.tendersorissa.gov.in
Chief Construction Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Angul.
O-397: OIPR-25180/11/0057/2526

READ
FRONTLINE
LEADING THE DEBATE SINCE 1984
EVERY FORTNIGHT.
TO SUBSCRIBE, VISIT www.thehindugroup.in/subscribe

M BG-BGE

TEAM EFFORT

India bowlers keep the English batters on a leash in fourth T20I

REUTERS

A collective bowling effort helped the Women in Blue restrict host England to 126 for seven in 20 overs in the fourth T20I at Old Trafford in Manchester on Wednesday.
The scores: England 126/7 in 20 overs (Shree Charani 2/30, Radha Yadav 2/15) vs. India; **Toss:** England.

POSITIVE RESULTS

Humpy, Vantika and Vaishali register wins in chess World Cup

ANI

India's K. Humpy won against Uzbekistan's Afruza Khamdamova while Vantika Agrawal humbled former champion Anna Ushenina in game one of second round of FIDE Women's World Chess Cup in Batumi. Among other Indians, D. Harika drew with compatriot P. V. Nandhidhaa and R. Vaishali beat Ouellet Maili-Jade.

END OF THE ROAD

Former top-10 star Fognini hangs up his racquet

AP

Former top-10 player Fabio Fognini announced his retirement from professional tennis on Wednesday at Wimbledon, where he lost to Carlos Alcaraz in a five-setter on day one of the tournament last week. "It's the best way to say goodbye," Fognini said. This was the 63rd Grand Slam event for Fognini.

NEW LEADER

Evenepoel wins fifth stage; Pogacar takes the yellow jersey

REUTERS

Belgian rider Remco Evenepoel won the fifth stage of the Tour de France on Wednesday, a 33km time trial around Caen that saw Slovenia's Tadej Pogacar take the yellow jersey from Mathieu van der Poel. Evenepoel finished 16 seconds quicker than Pogacar with the Italian Edoardo Affini 33sec off the stage lead in third.

Will the Lord's pitch be a litmus test for Bazball?

India piling on the runs and finding success in Edgbaston has forced England to move from its original template of preparing flat tracks; Bumrah expected to replace Prasidh

INDIA IN ENGLAND

Shayan Acharya
LONDON

A bright and sunny Lord's welcomed the Indian team as it trained for one final time before the third Test, beginning on Thursday.

Following the pattern, head coach Gautam Gambhir and captain Shubman Gill had a close look at the pitch before they had a quick chat with the curators.

And for the next couple of hours, Gill, Rishabh Pant and K.L. Rahul had long sessions, where Deepak Chahar – who is in England on a rehabilitation programme – bowled to them under the watchful eyes of Gambhir and bowling coach Morne Morkel.

Coming on the back of a rather one-sided win in Birmingham, the in-form Indian batters now need to back themselves on a potentially challenging surface, where the fast bowlers could make their presence felt.

With England naming Jofra Archer in its XI after four and a half years and Jasprit Bumrah set to replace Prasidh Krishna in India's line-up, an exciting contest awaits.

The last time the two teams squared off at the historic venue, back in 2021, India managed a convincing victory. The focus now will be to build on the Edgbaston success and extend the lead in the five-match series.

Vice-captain Pant said that clear communication between the skipper and the players helped the side bounce back after the Leeds reverse.

Clear vision: The free-spirited Pant won't be perturbed by the nature of the surface. GETTY IMAGES

"When you have a good camaraderie off the field, it eventually shows on the field, and that is exactly what happened," Pant said. "Hopefully, we can do the same thing with the whole team going forward and just make it one big unit," he said.

India piling on the runs and finding success in Edgbaston has forced England to move from its original template of preparing flat tracks. No wonder, ahead of what could be a series-defining fixture, the home team is now set to dish out a track that offers a fair amount of seam movement.

Unique challenge

Add to that, one could expect a rather unique challenge of a slope – running up and down – at the iconic venue.

However, India doesn't seem perturbed. The batting unit, barring Karun Nair, has clicked. On the bowling side of things, Jasprit Bumrah's return further bolsters the pace line-up, which already features the in-form Akash Deep and Mohammed Siraj, who had a magical outing in Birmingham.

However, on the eve of the contest, India continued to play mind games with England as Pant said that a decision on the bowling combination will be taken closer to the game.

England will be banking on Archer to find his rhythm fast. The host will also need Brydon Carse and Chris Woakes to complement the returning speedster. The home team's top- and middle-order batters have lacked consistency and it's time for captain Ben Stokes and the seasoned Joe Root to step up and play some innings of impact in a bid to keep England in the hunt.

The teams: England (XI): Ben Stokes (Capt.), Zak Crawley, Ben Duckett, Ollie Pope, Joe Root, Harry Brook, Jamie Smith (wk), Chris Woakes, Brydon Carse, Jofra Archer and Shoaib Bashir.
India (from): Shubman Gill (Capt.), Rishabh Pant (wk), Yashasvi Jaiswal, K.L. Rahul, B. Sai Sudharsan, Abhimanyu Easwaran, Karun Nair, Nitish Kumar, Ravindra Jadeja, Dhruv Jurel (wk), Washington Sundar, Shardul Thakur, Jasprit Bumrah, Mohammed Siraj, Prasidh Krishna, Akash Deep, Arshdeep Singh and Kuldeep Yadav.
Match starts at 3:30 p.m. IST.

Dukes ball the talk of the town

Shayan Acharya
LONDON

The Dukes ball, which has long been used for Test matches in England, has drawn flak during the ongoing Anderson-Tendulkar Trophy series.

Both teams repeatedly requested a change of ball in the first two Tests. While the manufacturers defended their product, India's vice-captain Rishabh Pant admitted that the 'de-shaping' of the ball has been irritating for the players.

"In this series, I have seen the ball getting deformed too much. It's irritating for the players because every ball plays in a different way," Pant said on the eve of the third Test at Lord's.

"When it [the ball] becomes softer, sometimes it's not doing too much. But as soon as you change the ball, it starts to do enough. So as a batter, you've got to keep adjusting to it. But at the same time, I feel it's not good for cricket eventually."

Earlier, India captain Shubman Gill, too, had raised concerns over the quality of the Dukes ball, and on Wednesday, he got the backing of his English counterpart Ben Stokes.

"We're not the only ones – whenever touring teams come here, there have been issues with the ball going soft and out of shape. I'm not even sure the rings we use are the standard Dukes rings," Stokes said.

Akash. REUTERS

"It's not ideal, but you deal with it. If you think the ball is out of shape, you ask the umpire to check it, and if it passes through the ring, you just crack on. If it doesn't – once it's sufficiently out of shape – you get a new one. It was definitely an issue at Edgbaston, and it's something all bowling attacks have had to contend with".

Archer. GETTY IMAGES

Archer won't be restricted to short spells, says Stokes

Shayan Acharya
LONDON

Four and a half years since his last appearance, Jofra Archer will make his Test comeback at Lord's on Thursday. Replacing Josh Tongue, Archer will spearhead England's bowling line-up against India as the home team hopes to bounce back following an embarrassing defeat in the second Test in Birmingham.

While captain Ben Stokes is excited about Archer's return, he made it clear the pacer won't be restricted to just short spells. "That'll be a call made in the moment, as it is with anyone. If someone's looking dangerous, you might give them an extra over or two. But there are no set plans or restrictions – certainly not limiting him to four- or five-over spells. We'll see how it plays out on the day," Stokes said on Tuesday.

Archer missed out on the Edgbaston Test as he was working his way back to full fitness. However, Stokes was happy with the way Archer managed his fitness.

Swiatek sets up Bencic semifinal; Sinner to play Djokovic for spot in final

WIMBLEDON

N. Sudarshan
LONDON

Over the last few months, Iga Swiatek has flown largely under the radar. A five-time Major winner, the 24-year-old is no longer the defending champion at any Slam, hasn't won a Tour-level title since Roland-Garros 2024 and is seeded eighth at Wimbledon.

So much so that the All England Club scheduled three of her five matches this edition outside Centre Court. Hallowed the whole of the Wimbledon Park may be but not every patch of green is as regal and majestic as the one that stands as the centre-piece.

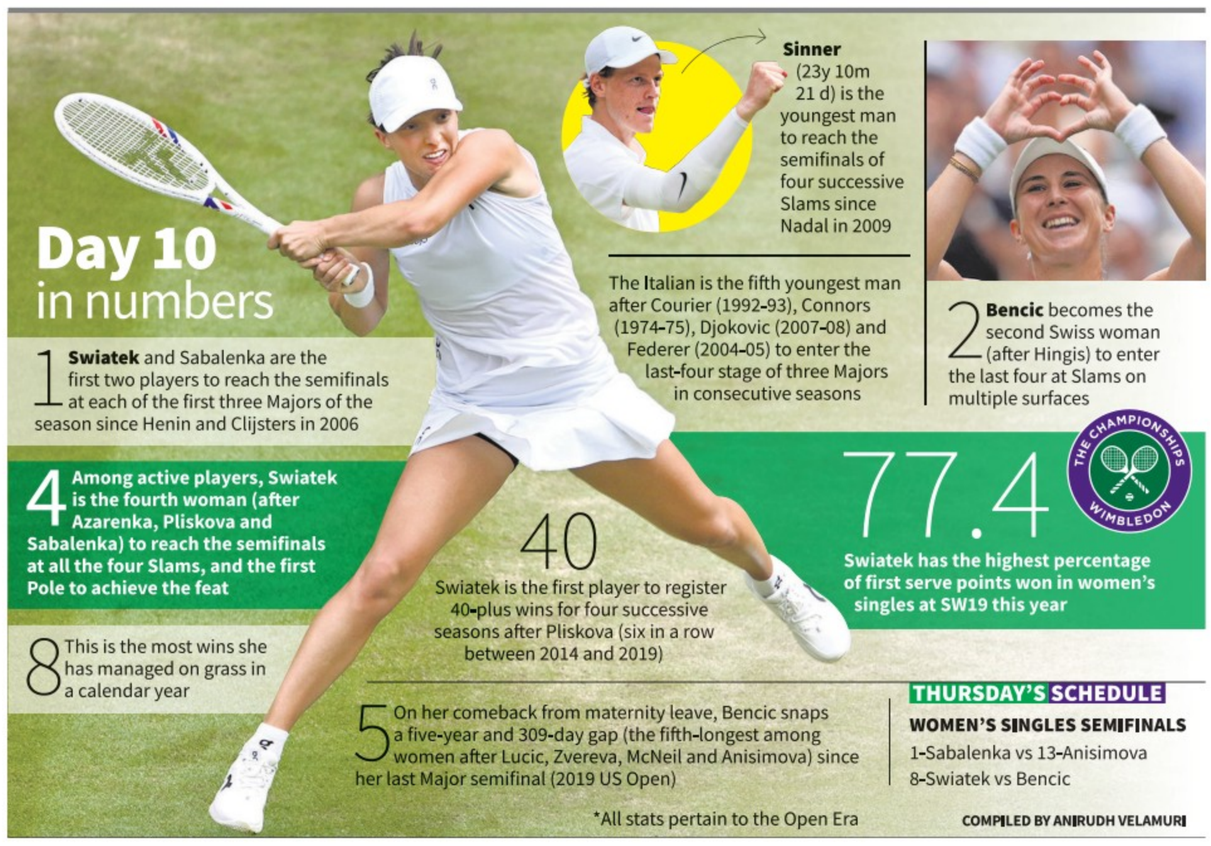
On Wednesday however, unmindful of all this, the Pole sprung back to life and into the worldwide gaze again by reaching her maiden Wimbledon singles semifinal. On a hot, airless, furnace-like afternoon, Swiatek beat 19th seed Liudmila Samsonova 6-2, 7-5 to give herself more than just some breathing room.

For a spot in the final, she will meet on Thursday, Belinda Bencic, 28, who outgunned teenage sensation and seventh-seed Mirra Andreeva 7-6(3), 7-6(2). The Swisswoman is a former top-10 player, Olympic gold medallist (Paris 2020) and mother of a one-year-old. She too will be making a maiden last-four appearance at SW19.

"It honestly feels great and I got goosebumps after this [win]," Swiatek said. "I am happy and proud, and hopefully [this run] will last."

The big challenge

Despite being a junior champion here in 2018, Swiatek's challenge on the slick lawns has always been to make her top spin-reliant style work. It has proved tough despite the grass slowing down, the bounce becoming truer and a lot of the surface-specific unpredictability evaporating into thin air because of rising temperatures.



Against Samsonova though, she found a way to win. She played a solid opening set, dictating with her heavy forehand and using her double-fisted backhand to drive through the court. The Russian, of collared tee, upright stance and clean-cut strokes, struggled to keep the ball in as Swiatek took the set 6-2.

In the second, when Swiatek broke to 2-0, it seemed like curtains for the 26-year-old. And when the Pole held to 3-0 - her seventh straight game - after saving four break-points, it appeared as if Samsonova had reached a dead end.

But a slight dip in Swiatek's level, as she struggled with the depth of her shots, coincided with Samsonova loosening up and breaking back to 2-3. Though the Russian lost serve immediately, she found the energy and mettle to regain her advantage as Swiatek dropped a game from being 40-0 up.

The purple patch, however, didn't last long as Swiatek came up with two nerveless holds - to 5-4 that finished with a searing deuce-court ace and to 6-5 that was achieved despite falling 0-30 down.

Samsonova soon withered under pressure as Swiatek completed the victory with a remarkable return winner.

Jannik Sinner, who followed Swiatek onto Court No. 1, quelled Ben Shelton's challenge 7-6(2), 6-4, 6-4 despite playing with some elaborate bandaging on his right elbow, which he hurt while competing against Grigor Dimitrov.

Fighting back

The Italian World No. 1's fourth straight Major semifinal will be a repeat of the French Open affair, versus seven-time Wimbledon champion Novak Djokovic, who overcame a spirited effort from Flavio Cobolli, another Italian, 6-7(6), 6-2, 7-5, 6-4.

"The concerns were not about whether I would play or not but about what my percentage would be," Sinner said later. "It was very high, so I'm happy."

QUARTERFINAL RESULTS

Men: 1-Sinner (Ita) bt 10-Shelton (USA) 7-6(2), 6-4, 6-4; 6-Djokovic (Srb) bt Cobolli (Ita) 6-7(6), 6-2, 7-5, 6-4.
Women: 8-Swiatek (Pol) bt 19-Samsonova (Rus) 6-2, 7-5; Bencic (Sui) bt 7-Andreeva (Rus) 7-6(3), 7-6(2).

INBRIEF

Pro Kabaddi League Season 12 from August 29

The 12th Pro Kabaddi League (PKL) will commence on August 29, organisers announced on Wednesday. The new season will see reigning champion Haryana Steelers return to defend its maiden title win from last year. "With all 12 franchises strengthening their squads through the recently concluded auction, the upcoming season promises to deliver unprecedented levels of competition and entertainment," organisers said. Venues and other details will be announced soon, event organisers Mashal Sports said.

Silver in 94kg for Parv in Asian junior weightlifting

Parv Chaudhary has claimed a silver medal in the men's 94kg category at the Asian junior weightlifting championships in Astana. The 16-year-old Indian lifted a total of 328kg, including 145kg in snatch and 183kg in clean and jerk 183kg.

Wrestlers Varun and Rohit make do with silver

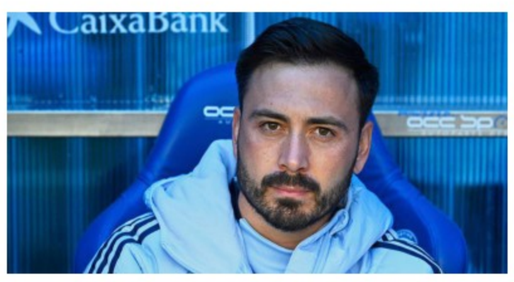
Indian Greco Roman wrestlers, Varun (63kg) and Rohit (87kg), landed silver medals at the Asian under-20 championships in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, on Wednesday. Varun was defeated 8-0 by local favourite Emirlan Duishenaliev, while Rohit was beaten 3-1 by Kazakhstan's Temirlan Turdakyn in their respective finals. Nitin (55kg) and Joginder Rathee (130kg) lost their bronze medal matches.

Indian-A men open with win over Ireland

The Indian-A men's hockey team produced a dominant performance to outclass Ireland 6-1, and make a rollicking start to its European tour, at Eindhoven on Tuesday. Uttam Singh, Amandeep Lakra, Aditya Lalage (twice), Selvam Karthi, and Boby Singh Dhami were the scorers for India. Ireland could only manage to score a consolation goal.

Former Australia seamer Rorke passes away at 87

Former Australian fast bowler Gordon Rorke passed away at the age of 87. Rorke, known for his towering frame and express pace, represented Australia in four Test matches, all in 1959. The fast bowler played 36 First Class matches, including four Test matches for Australia, claiming 88 wickets at 24.60 with three five-wicket hauls and a best of 6/52.



Davide Ancelotti takes over as Botafogo manager

Brazilian club Botafogo has hired Davide, the son of Brazil coach Carlo Ancelotti, as its new manager. The 35-year-old was handed a contract through 2026 to take up his first full-time coaching job after Botafogo owner John Textor fired Renato Paiva following the team's round-of-16 elimination at the Club World Cup.

LIVE TELECAST

England vs India: 3rd Test, day 1, Sony Sports Ten 1 (SD & HD) & JioHotstar, 3.30 p.m.

Wimbledon: Star Sports 1, SS Select 1, 2 (SD & HD) & JioHotstar, 6.30 p.m.

Sri Lanka vs Bangladesh: 1st T20I, Sony Sports Ten 2 (SD & HD) & LIV, 7 p.m.

Pedro's double-strike sends Chelsea into the Club World Cup final

The Brazilian refuses to celebrate after either goal against the club with whom he started his career; the result ends Fluminense's impressive run

FOOTBALL

Agence France-Presse
EAST RUTHERFORD

New signing Joao Pedro scored twice on his first start as Chelsea eased to a 2-0 win over Fluminense on Tuesday to seal a spot in the final of the Club World Cup.

The Brazilian striker opened the scoring in lethal fashion in the 18th minute of the last-four clash at the MetLife Stadium and struck again shortly before the hour mark.

Signed from Brighton and Hove Albion just last week for a reported £60 million, the 23-year-old cut short an off-season holiday and made his debut off the bench in the quarterfinal win over Palmeiras.

He was then given his first Chelsea start up front here in place of the suspended Liam Delap. Pedro refused to celebrate after either goal against the club with whom he started his career and made 36 top-team appearances before moving to England with Watford in 2020.

The result ends Fluminense's impressive run at the tournament after the 2023 Copa Libertadores winner had held Borussia Dortmund in the group stage, beaten Inter Milan in the last 16 and knocked out Manchester City's conqueror Al-Hilal in the quarterfinals.

With its exit go the prospects of a South American winner of the first 32-team edition of the Club World Cup, with Chelsea claiming back-to-back victories against Brazilian opposition to reach the final.

As always seemed most likely, the trophy will be claimed by one of Europe's superpowers, with the final now guaranteed to be between two of the last five winners of the UEFA Champions League.

Fluminense coach Renato Portaluppi had described his team as the "ugly duckling" of the tournament due to the enormous difference between its budget and those of the other three sides left in the USA. This game ultimately proved to be a step too far for its team, captained by 40-year-old former Chelsea centre-back Thiago Silva.

The result (semifinal):
Fluminense 0 lost to Chelsea 2 (Joao Pedro 18, 56).

Lethal: Pedro, centre, fires in Chelsea's second against Fluminense. AFP

Archers Rishabh and Surekha rewrite compound mixed team world record

Sports Bureau

Rishabh Yadav and V. Jyothi Surekha rewrote the compound mixed team world record in the Archery World Cup Stage-4 in Madrid.

In the qualifying round, Rishabh and Surekha, who clinched the mixed team gold in Stage-1, secured 716 and 715 points to finish atop the men's and women's individual rankings respectively.

Their combined score of 1431 was better than the previous world record of 1429 set by the Danish pair of Tanja Gellenthien and Mathias Fullerton in 2023.

Rishabh, who scored full points in his first 30 arrows, produced 68 shots of 10s and Xs. He was two short of Braden Gellenthien's individual world record. Jyothi did not drop a point in 67 arrows, including her last 24.

Great show: Rishabh and Surekha logged 716 and 715 points to finish atop men's and women's individual rankings. WORLD ARCHERY

In elimination, the Indian women's team of Surekha, Parneet Kaur and Prithika Pradeep performed solidly to set up a title clash with Chinese Taipei.

The men's team, comprising Rishabh, Prathamesh Fuge and Aman Saini, lost to France in the quarterfinals.

Following a prior decision, India fielded its World championships-bound archers (excluding second best Indian Priyansh) in order to give them some match practice.

The results:
Compound: Qualifying round: Individual: Men: Rishabh Yadav (first, 716 points), Priyansh (10th, 710), Aman Saini (11th, 709), Prathamesh Fuge (19th, 707);
Women: V. Jyothi Surekha (first, 715), Parneet Kaur (seventh, 702), Prithika Pradeep (10th, 699), Chikitha Taniparthi (31st, 688);
Team: India (Men: first, 2135; Women: first, 2116; Mixed: first, 1431).
Elimination rounds: Team: Men: India (Rishabh, Fuge, Saini) got a bye (1st round), bt Poland 235-232 (2nd round), lost to France 233-234 (quarterfinal);
Women: India (Jyothi, Parneet, Prithika) got a bye (1st round), bt El Salvador 235-226 (quarterfinal), bt Indonesia 230-226 (semifinal).

Red Bull sacks Horner, names Mekies as CEO

Big move: Red Bull promoted Mekies from sister team Racing Bulls after sacking long-serving principal Horner. GETTY IMAGES, AP

FORMULA ONE

Reuters
LONDON

Red Bull sacked long-serving Formula One principal Christian Horner and promoted Laurent Mekies from sister team Racing Bulls in the role of chief executive on Wednesday.

Horner, 51, had been in position since becoming the youngest team boss when Red Bull made its debut as constructor in 2005.

"Red Bull has released Christian Horner from his operational duties with effect from today (Wednesday 9 July 2025) and has appointed Laurent Mekies as CEO of Red Bull Racing," the Milton Keynes-based team said in a statement.

"We would like to thank Christian Horner for his exceptional work over the last 20 years," said Oliver Mintzlaff, Red Bull's CEO of corporate projects, investments.

Time, game management, soft PCs: Harendra identifies areas of concern for women's team

HOCKEY

Uthra Ganesan
NEW DELHI

The beleaguered Indian women's hockey team found itself demoted from the top-tier Pro League, and chief coach Harendra Singh admitted that the players need to improve their game and time management to get better results.

India lost all its games in Europe and finished last on the table. Harendra blamed the absence of several senior players due to injury and the inexperience of the squad for the results. However, he insisted that barring a few areas of concern, the team was on the right track.

"Yes, we are disheartened, but I am not in pain because we have closed the gap with most of the top teams. I think we were very competitive. Three of our most dependable defenders – Nikki Pradhan, Udita and Susheela Chanu – got injured just before leaving. We had to move players around and play midfielders Jyoti Singh and Vaishnavi Phalke in the defence," Harendra said in a media interaction on Wednesday.

Perspective: Harendra says the relegation may be taken as a 'blessing in disguise' as the team can play lower-ranked sides to get back to winning ways. FILE PHOTO: R.V. MOORTHY

"We conceded soft penalty corners; [conceding] 52 PCs is very high, and 35% of those resulted in goals. That was a major difference. The rest, I think we were much closer skill-wise, fitness-wise and in the kind of hockey we wanted to play. We have a young team and they will get better with experience," Harendra emphasised.

Elaborating on the specific areas to work on in the next six weeks ahead of the crucial Asia Cup in China, Harendra repeatedly stressed on game and time management and avoiding conceding PCs.

"We have identified four major areas to work on. First, game management; if we enter the opponent's circle 52 times, we expect at least a minimum of 24-27 shots at the goal. More shots mean more chances of scoring. Second, time management; being aware of the timing and scoreboard when we are close to winning. Like against Australia, there were seconds left, and we gave away a soft PC and the goal.

"Third, decision making both in attack and defence. Fourth, conceding soft PCs and goals. But I feel once these three players are back, that area will be taken care of. We are going to invest more time in PC defending," he explained.

"Maybe this is a blessing in disguise; we can reset ourselves. If you keep losing, you lose confidence, too. Now we can rebuild, play against lower-ranked sides to get back to winning and balance with matches against top sides," he added.

Chanu to spearhead Indian challenge in Commonwealth weightlifting

Sports Bureau
KOLKATA

Worlds and Olympics medallist Mirabai Chanu will spearhead India's campaign in the Commonwealth Weightlifting Championships (CWC), a major qualifying event for the Commonwealth Games (CWG) in Glasgow next year, to be held in Ahmedabad from August 23 to 31.

Tokyo Olympics silver medallist Mirabai, who had a disappointing fourth-place finish in Paris 2024, trained with physiotherapist Aaron Horschig in the USA for three weeks in September last before focusing on her recovery and training, especially on snatch in her quest to achieve the 90kg mark, at Modinagar.

India has picked 16 lifters (apart from four reserves), including eight men and as many women, for the CWC following the selection trials.

The winner in each weight category at the CWC will earn a quota place for the CWG.

Most of the lifters selected in the team are likely to participate in the World Championships to be held in Forde, Norway, in October.

Chanu. FILE PHOTO

The team: Men: 60kg: Chanambam Rishikanta Singh; **65kg:** Muthupandi Raja; **71kg:** Narayana Ajith; **79kg:** Valluri Ajaya Babu and Achinta Sheuli (reserve); **88kg:** Ajay Singh; **94kg**: Dilbag Singh; **110kg:** Harcharan Singh; **+110kg:** Lovepreet Singh.
Women: 48kg: Saikhom Mirabai Chanu; **53kg:** Sneha Soren and Gyaneshwari Yadav (reserve); **58kg:** Sorokhaibam Bindyarani Devi and Rima Bhoi (reserve); **63kg:** Seram Nirupama Devi; **69kg:** Harjinder Kaur and Sanapathi Pallavi (reserve); **77kg:** Harmanpreet Kaur; **86kg:** Vanshita Verma; **+86kg:** Mehak Sharma.

BFI panel bars personal coaches for National campers

Sports Bureau
KOLKATA

Stressing the importance of centralised training and maintaining consistency across the national boxing programme, the Interim Committee overseeing the Boxing Federation of India (BFI) has reinforced a policy of the federation by barring personal support staff, including coaches, of National campers.

The directive is aimed at ensuring uniform preparation standards ahead of major global events, such as the Worlds in Liverpool in September, World Boxing Cup Finals in New Delhi in November and Asian Games in Japan next year.

Learning from India's 2024 Olympic campaign, the committee has underlined the need for a centralised and high-accountability training system under which boxers have been training under coaches appointed by the federation for three months.

"By consolidating our coaching framework, we are able to maintain clear performance benchmarks, ensure real-time progress tracking and implement timely course corrections," said BFI executive director Col. (Retd.) Arun Malik.